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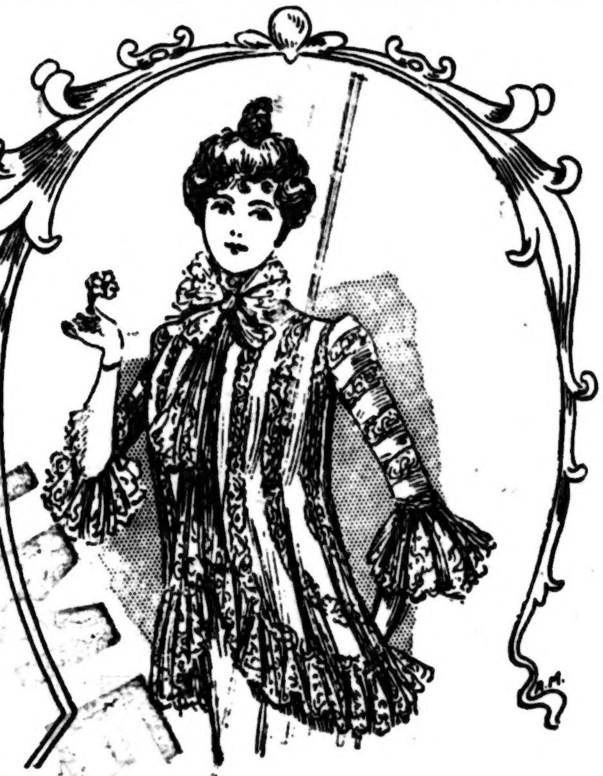

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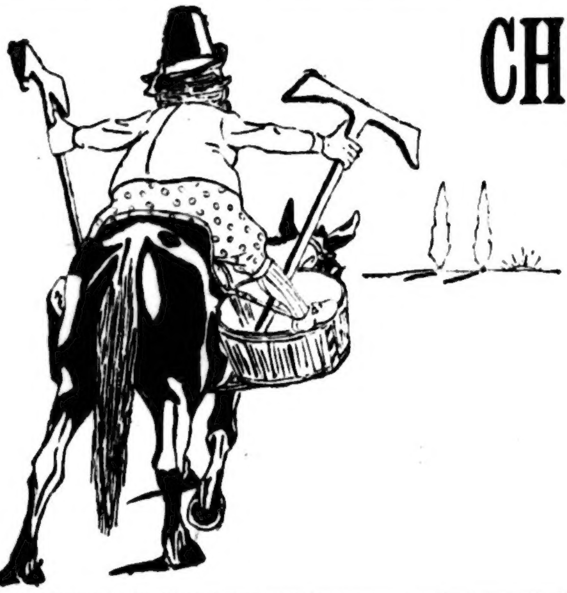

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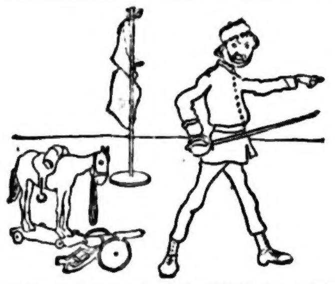

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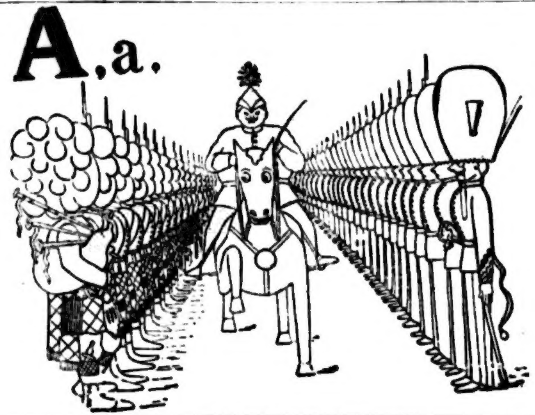

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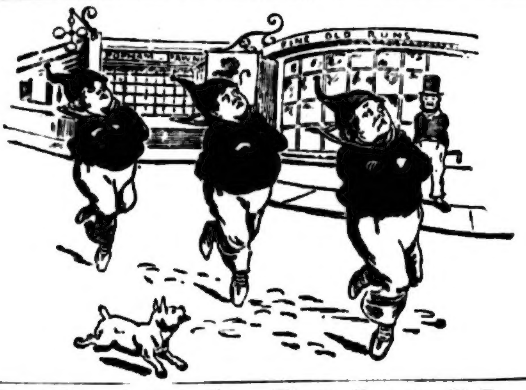

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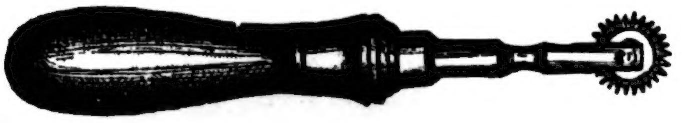

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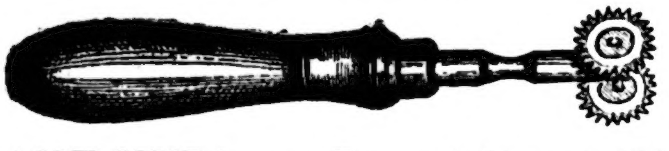

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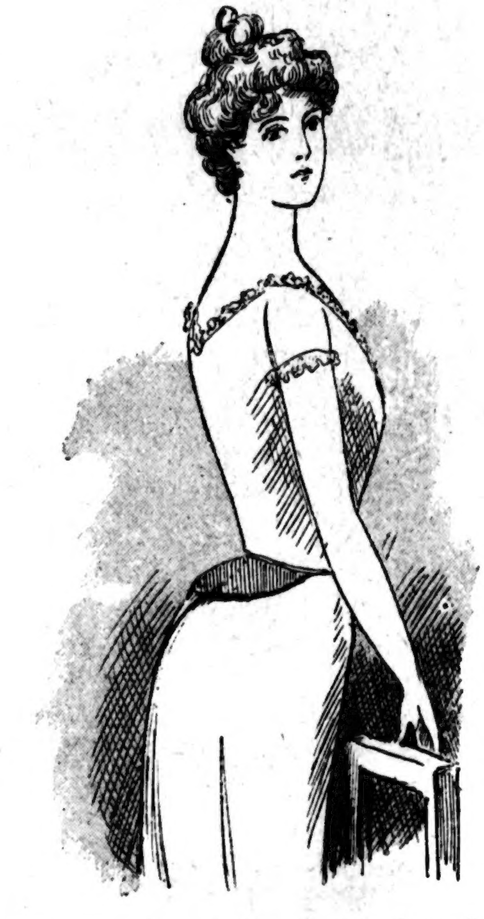

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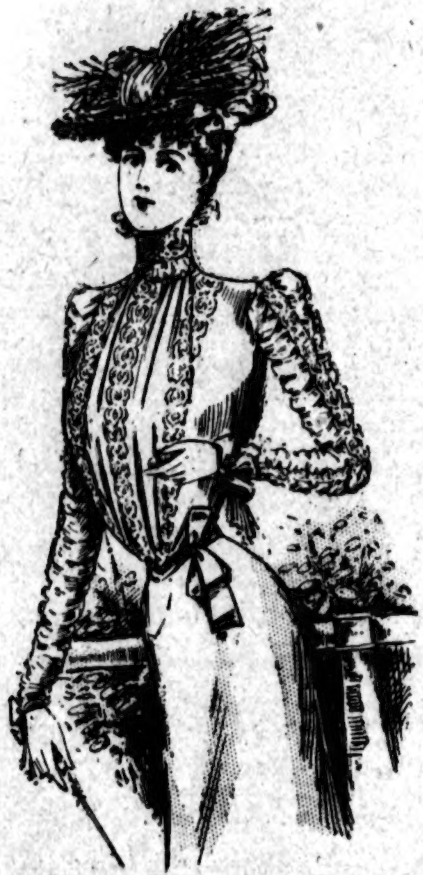

Fig. 1. Pretty Shirt Sleeve.

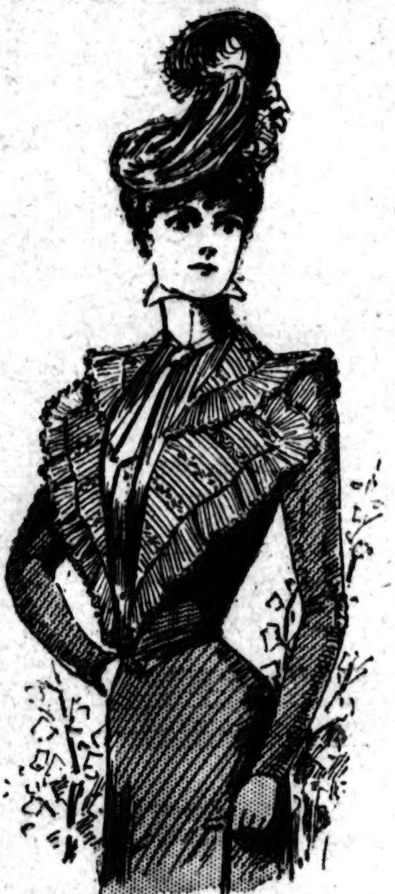

Fig. 2. A Muslin Collar.

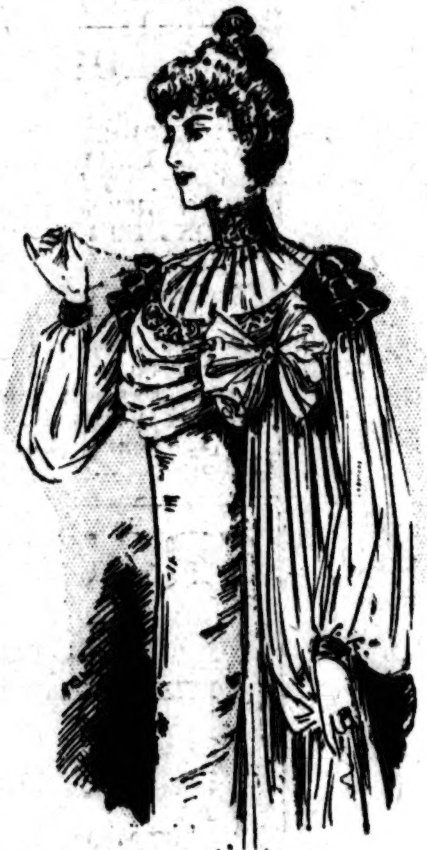

Fig. 3. New Sleeve.

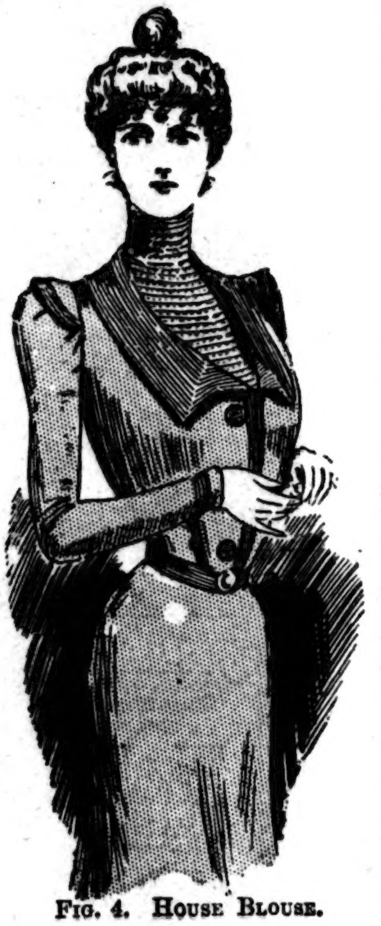

Fig. 4. House Blouse.

Fig. 1. Pretty shirt or blouse sleeve of ruffled silk or chiffon, ruffled on a band of silk-lined lace. Quantity of 22-inch silk required, 2 yards.

Fig. 2. Collar (with revers) of tucked muslin, striped with lace edged with a muslin frill. Quantity of 30-inch muslin required, 2½ yards.

Fig. 3. Charming one-piece sleeve, unlined, of chiffon, with wrist-band and triple revers of velvet. Quantity of material required, chiffon 2 yards; 20-inch velvet, 1 yard.

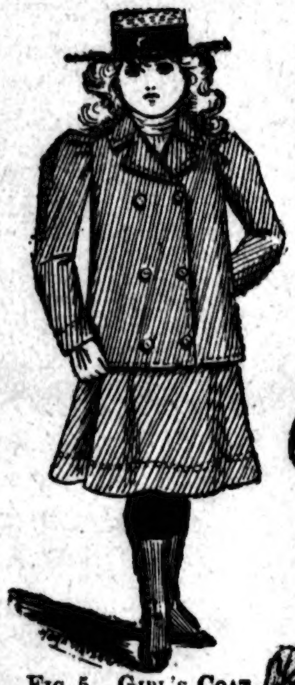

Fig. 5. Girl's Coat.

Fig. 4. Smart house blouse—a back, two parts, a tucked vest, a two-piece sleeve, an epaulet, one-piece collar, a tucked band collar. A good model for cashmere. Quantity of 48-inch cashmere required, 2¼ yds. Tucked portion can be of silk.

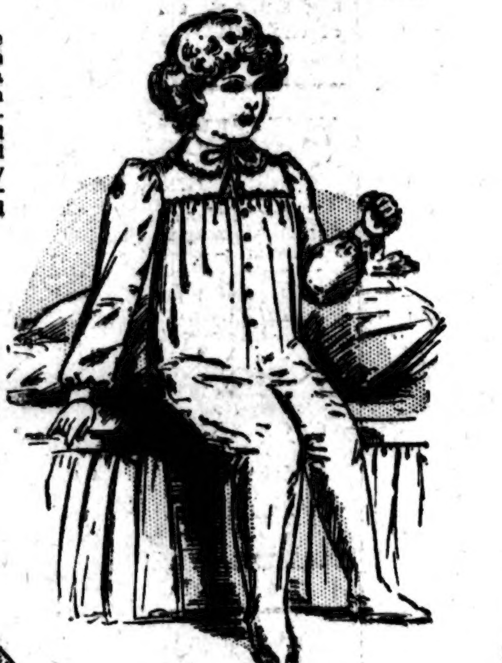

Fig. 6. Sleeping Suit.

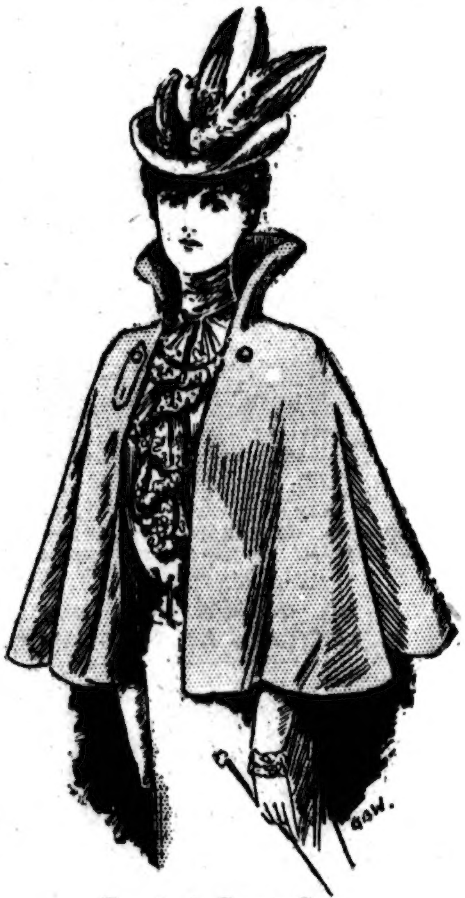

Fig 7. A Cloth Cape.

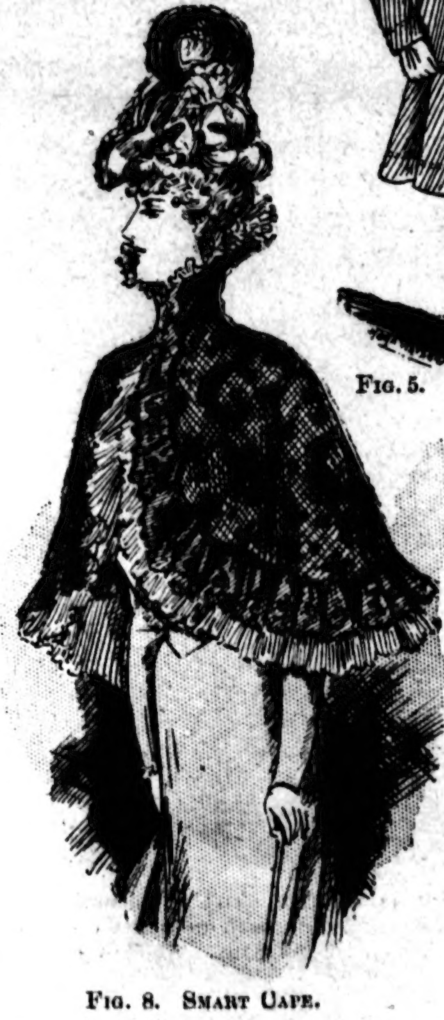

Fig. 8. Smart Cape.

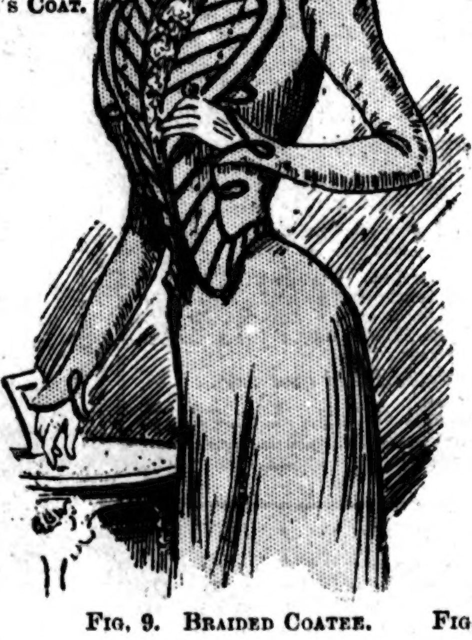

Fig. 9. Braided Coatee.

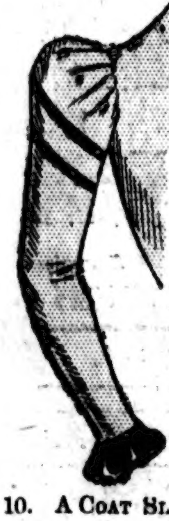

Fig. 10. A Coat Sleeve.

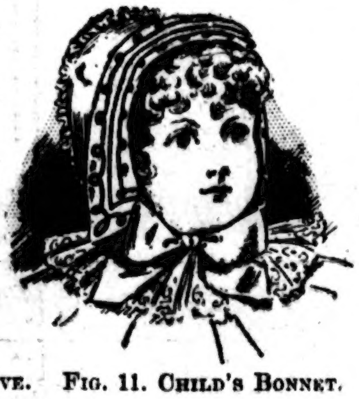

Fig. 11. Child's Bonnet.

Fig. 5. Girl's sacque coat, double-breasted, with reefer collar, faced with the material. Good model for serge. For a girl of nine the quantity of 48-inch serge required, 1¾ yards.

Fig. 6. Sleeping suit of flannel or flannelette, a two-piece combination gathered into a three-piece yoke. The foot is shaped by an added sole. One-piece sleeve. Quantity of 30-inch flannel required, 3 yards.

Fig. 7. Smart cape, unlined, for plain or reversible cloth, cut in one piece. Storm collar, faced cloth. Quantity of 54-inch cloth required, 1¾ yards.

Fig. 8. Pretty one-piece cape, suitable for embroidered silk or cloth, trimmed with a flounce of the embroidered material over a silk pleating. Quantity of 22-inch material required (apart from the flounce), 1¾ yards.

Fig. 9. Braided coatee, a good model for serge, tweed, or cloth. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 2 yards.

Fig. 10. Coat sleeve, two pieces, with added circular bell cuff. Good model for cloth and velvet. Quantity of material required, 48-inch cloth, 1 yard; velvet, ½ yard.

Fig. 11. Baby's bonnet. A crown, a brim and brim revers. A good model for satin or cloth, to be trimmed with satin ribbon or fur.

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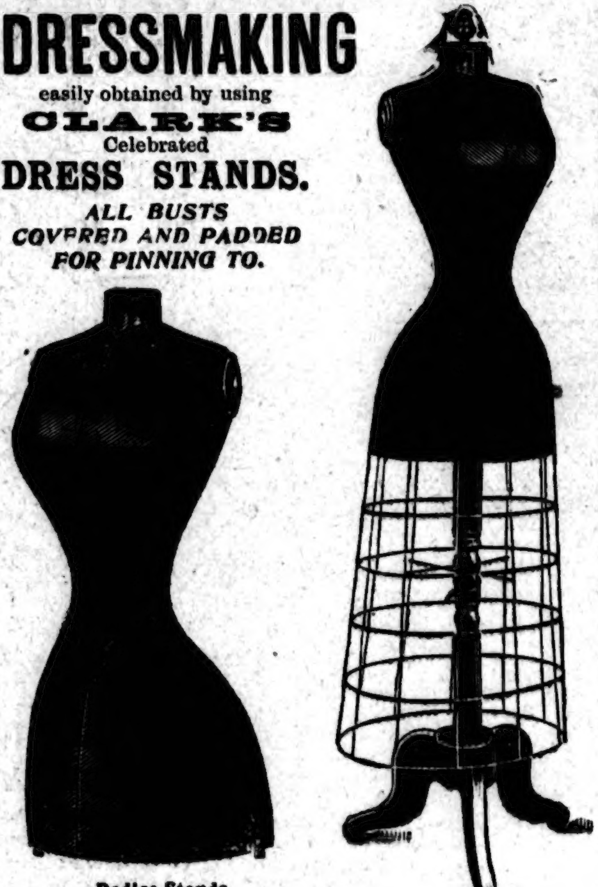

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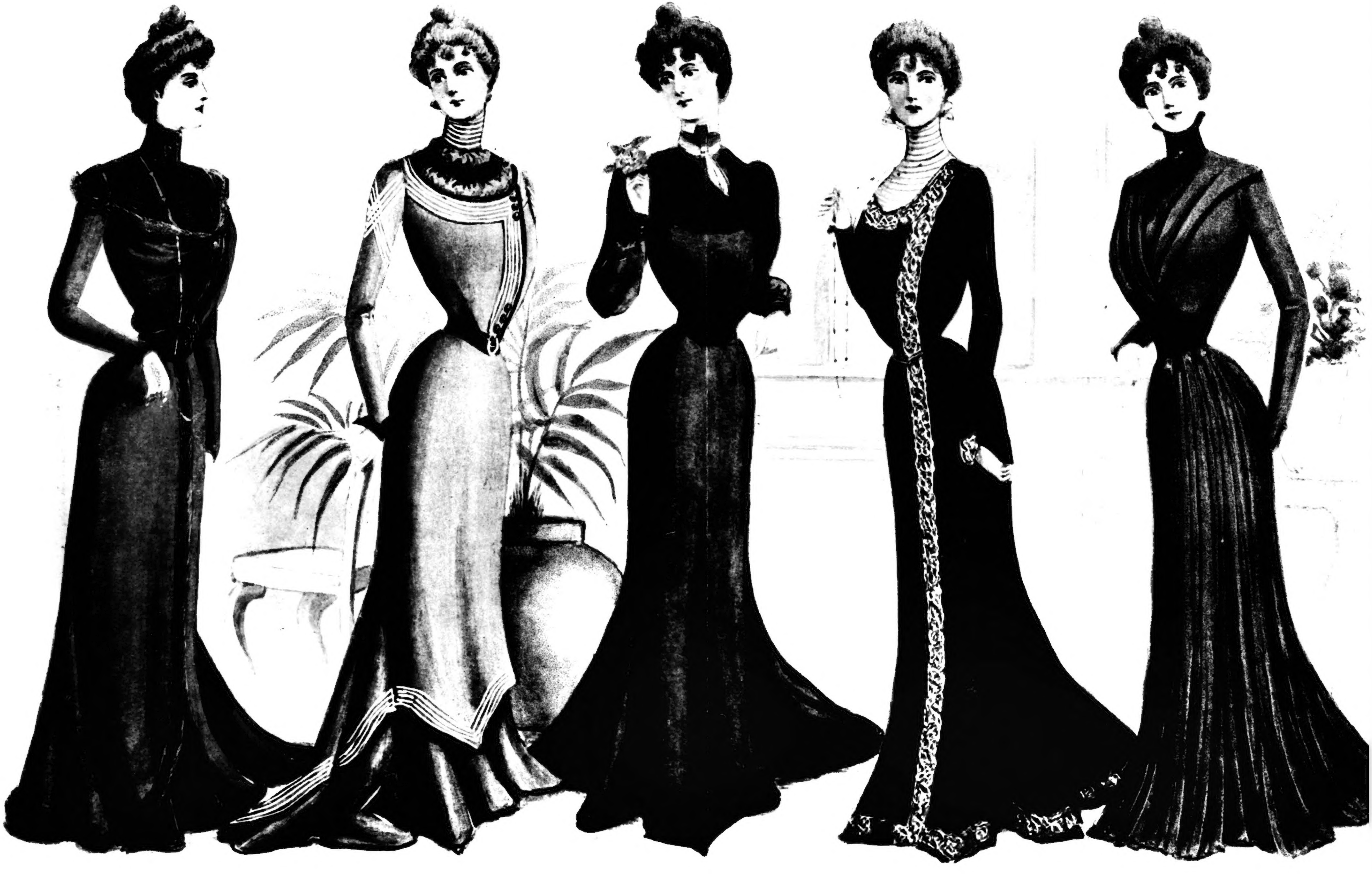

Supplement to "MYRA'S JOURNAL." FEBRUARY, 1900.

VOL. XXVII.—No. 2. FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

Myra's Journal

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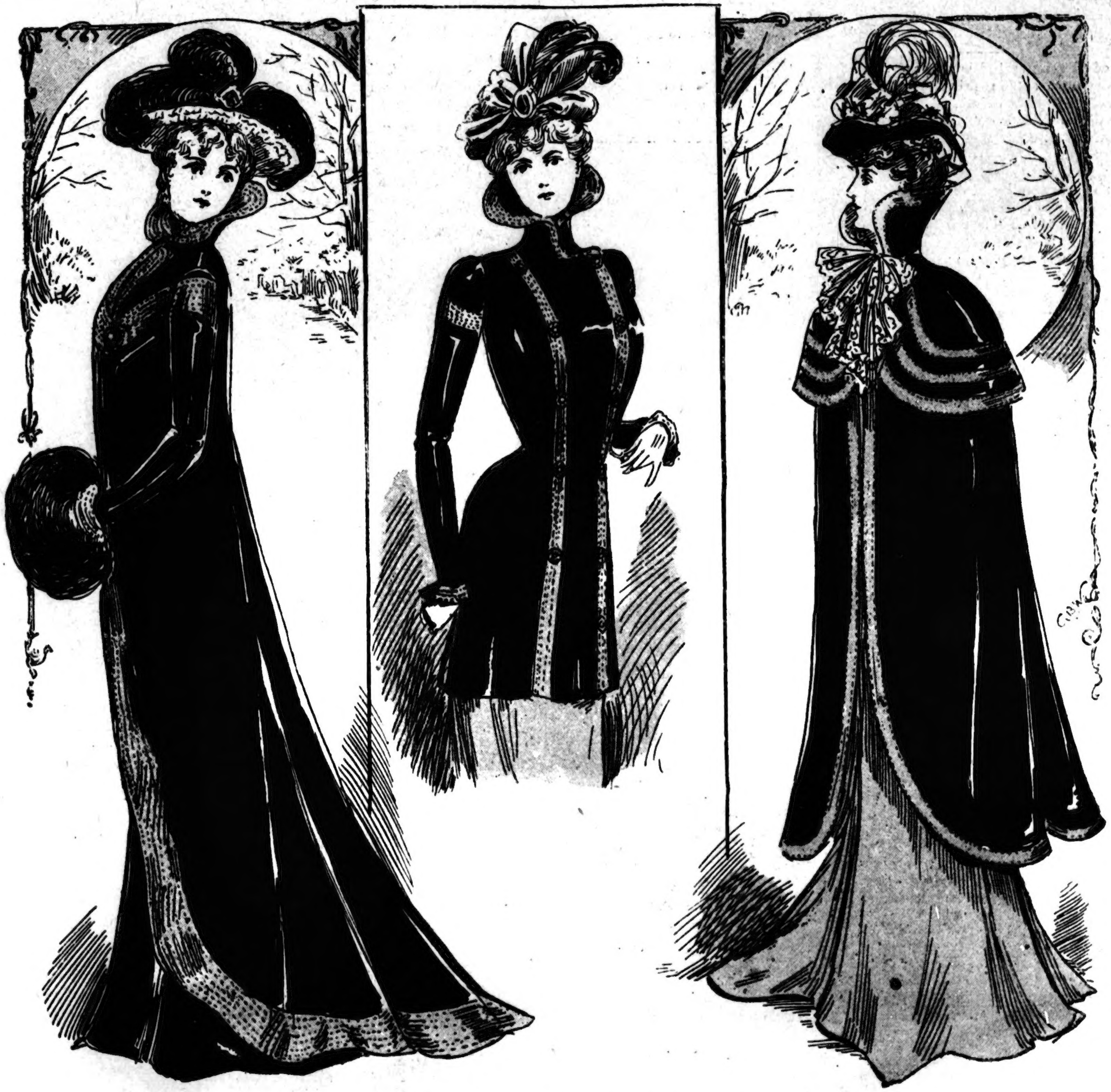


Nos. 339 to 341. Velvet Wraps, Strapped with Cloth

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 39.

Price of Paper Patterns, Coat or Cape, each 6½d.; Long Coat, 1s. 0½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

FROM OURSELVES TO OUR READERS.

SOME very charming models are offered to our readers this month, which forecast the spring styles, and which, therefore, are sure of a long run of popular favour. Foremost, we would call attention to the beautiful pleated skirts. Two typical styles are given—one, the sun-ray type, will be found at fig. 5 in the Coloured Fashion Plate (in itself a galaxy of lovely gowns); the other, of the more fanciful, stitched variety, is given at No. 358. This last is dealt with at length in the Dressmaking Lesson. It is the Parisian novelty of the moment. One of the new rib-tucked or corded skirt (a model from Vienna) will be found at No. 344.

A VARIETY of dainty coats and capcs is given, suitable for spring wear. All, even those trimmed with fur, are of the latest cut, and some of their fur trimmings could be worn far into the spring. A very nice little sacque coat (it will be a favourite this season, in very pale cloth on ornamental woollen fabrics to match a skirt) is given at No. 346.

THE cut-out paper pattern given away this month is that of a smart tea-jacket. In flannel, trimmed with coarse lace, it would be a good pattern for a dressing or bed-jacket.

SOME of the newest skirts (many would do later on (for the new cotton fabrics) will be found on page 23. Children's skirts, suitable for a school outfit, will be found on page 22, amongst some useful and smart coats and frocks.

A NEW and very interesting serial story commences this month, by Miss Esther Miller, whose thrilling serials in the *Daily Mail* and other papers have lately excited so much attention.

A NEW prize competition is announced on page 39, offering some most attractive prizes. The result of the December prize competition will be found on page 8. The result of the February competition will be given in the April number (our grand special number of spring fashions.)

A SMART new tunic next month will form the subject of the paper pattern presented free to our readers. The new draped and pleated skirts will form a feature. Wedding dresses will be given, confirmation dresses and court trains will be dealt with. The new draped skirts are very lovely, and will vie with the pleated skirts in the domain of smart gowns this spring.

THE new spring tailor gowns will be given a prominent place. These promise to be specially beautiful this year, not only in shape, but in trimming. Straps of cloth and satin describe very beautiful patterns (and take, by the bye, a great deal of cloth). In this number we give directions how to strap in the new way. On smart gowns, straps have quite superseded braid.

THE Economical Hints this week deal with the renovation of evening gowns. In our next number the making of transparent sleeves, chiffon boas, pretty fronts, &c., will be dealt with. All these dainty little necessities are so cheaply turned out at home, and they are so very dear to buy ready made.

CHILDREN's spring styles and new skirts will not be forgotten next month. In fact, it will be found that the March number is a complete epitome of the early Spring Fashions, a good predecessor to our valuable April number, which will show all the season's novelties for ladies and children of all ages.

THE new printed and spotted pannes are lovely. Those printed with "shawl" patterns, make the loveliest shirts and blouses. It is probable that Paisley pannes (they are printed in Alsace, we believe) will soon be greatly cheapened. Dainty evening capes are being made of Paisley panne. One cape in a lovely colour combination of soft pink, turquoise, and almond green, had the high collar faced with white Persian lamb. It was edged with three belted frills of chiffon, each one matching one of the Paisley shades. Several of our shirt models on page 23 are suitable for Paisley pannes.

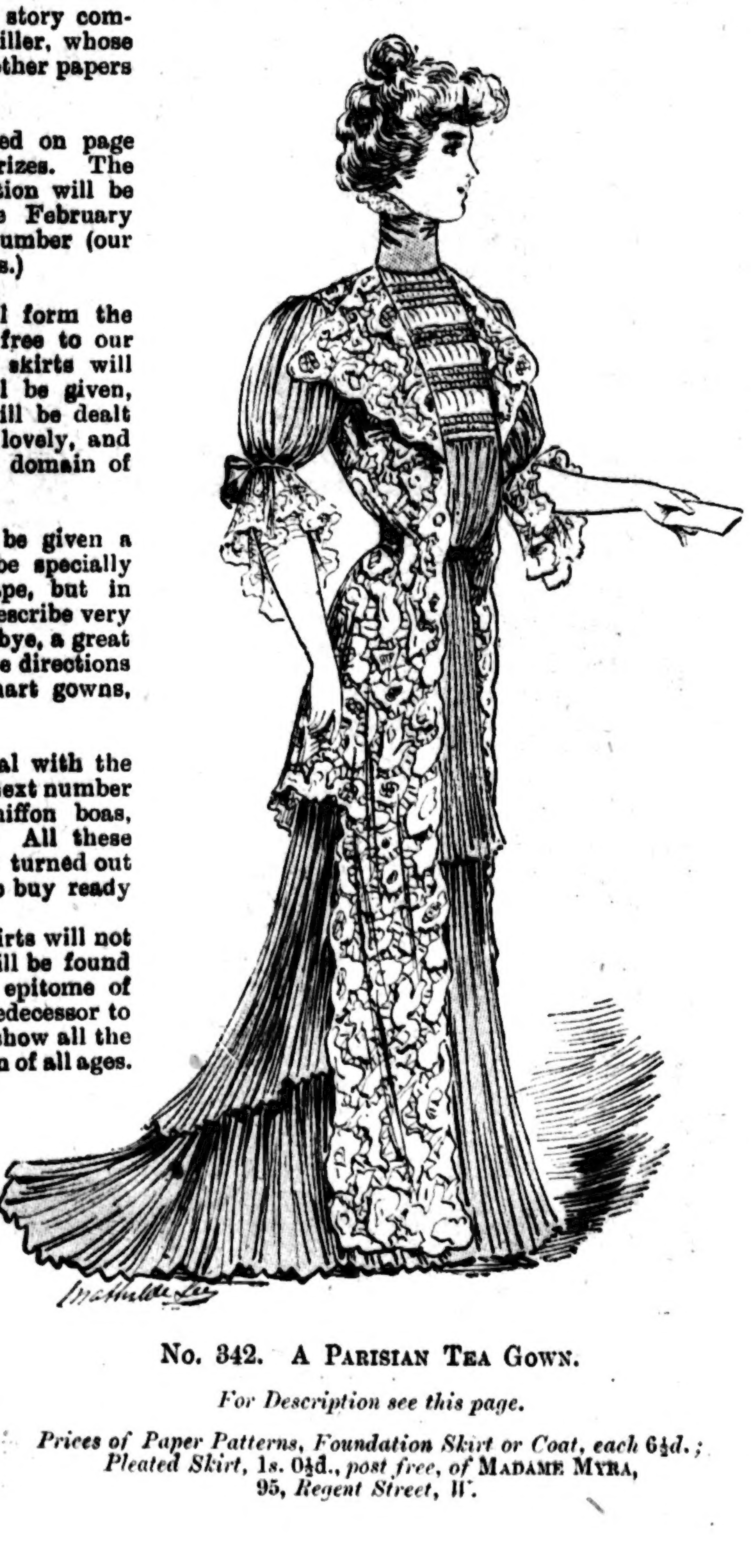
News from Fashion Centres.

PARIS.

JUST now the invention of our *couturières* is bound up in evolving novel ideas for the elaborate strapping of cloth gowns, and in finding variety for the pleated and tucked skirts. One of the prettiest of the tucked skirts has a wide, plain tablier, the back and sides being tucked half-way down. The tucks, fitting close to the body, merge beautifully into one of the "spoon-bowl" trains which are so much in vogue. By the time the train commences, the material is no longer even full, the tucks above having merged into nothing, so that it admits of placing a large ruche to edge skirt and train.

FOR matrons of a certain age who have preserved their elegance of figure, one of our chief *couturières* has invented a charming skirt. It fits very neatly, but the close fit is disguised by the narrow tucks back and front, into which the material is arranged from the waist to the depth of some half-yard. The clever *Parisienne* knows exactly how to augment and curtail these inches according to the *taille* of her customer.

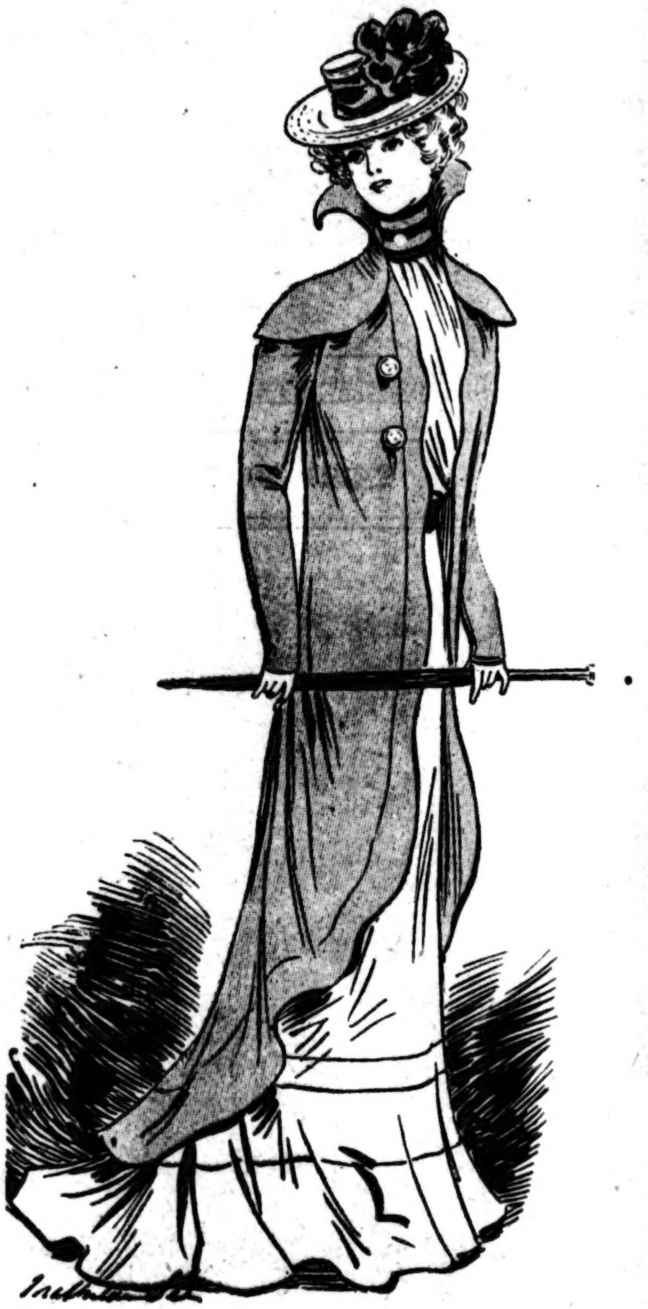
IN many skirts the tucks are so tiny that they are mere ribs or cordings. In fact a *couturièr* of note says that he allows the same material for cording as he does for minute tucks. And the effect of both is almost identical.



No. 342. A PARISIAN TEA GOWN.

For Description see this page.

Prices of Paper Patterns, Foundation Skirt or Coat, each 6½d.; *Pleated Skirt,* 1s. 0½d., *post free, of* MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*



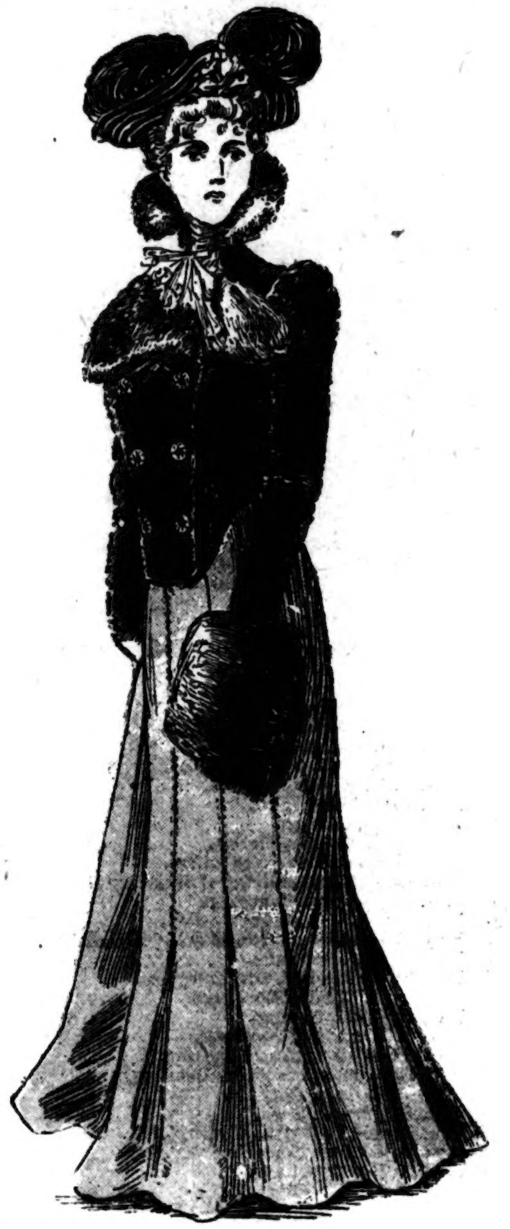
No. 343. A PARISIAN COAT.

ACCORDION and sun-ray pleatings will be much to the fore this summer for outdoor wear, as they are already for tea-gowns and ball dresses. Some dainty tea-gowns are being evolved out of silk muslin and guipure lace. A representative model is given at No. 342. The foundation of this gown is tomato satin. The skirt is veiled with a double skirt of pleated tomato muslin, the bodice having a prettily-gauged front and pleated sleeve of muslin over satin. The charming guipure coat (made of piece lace, the edges scalloped and edged with tiny ruches of finer lace) is attached to the bodice only, and falls free upon the pleated skirts. Tomato panne forms the belt and collar.

ENGLISHWOMEN can hardly realise, perhaps, to what extent the *automobile* (motor car) has taken on here. Our *élégantes* have become enthusiastic *chauffeuses* (so our fair amateurs in engine-driving call themselves). Therefore it has been necessary to start for this new sport quite special fashions. The motor car coat illustrated at No. 343 happens to be very pretty, and at the same time warm and easy to wear. It may be carried out in any colouring and worn for travelling or in an ordinary carriage as well as in a motor car. The model was in pastel blue cloth: a colour which we have already seen in last summer's light dresses, and which is still quite *la vogue* for capes and coats. The back of this coat is in a sacque shape, quite straight in the middle; the front is wide and rounds off at each side. The cloth is stitched in the same colour at five inches from the hem. A simple pelerine and a high collar are the trimming. It is fastened with large golden buttons.

VIENNA.

Among high-class evening gowns there is a strong taste here for contrasting sleeves. This taste in sleeves—which are so small and unimportant that they are hardly worth mentioning—is decidedly attractive and pretty. On one arm there will be a wreath of roses, on the other a chiffon drapery, or nothing at all. This is all very well when women keep from exaggerations; but it is a little too much when we see a lady with one arm bare to the shoulder (protected by the minutest shoulder-strap of ribbon) and the other covered to the knuckles with a lace or chiffon sleeve. This effect is exceedingly ugly, and is apt to suggest some skin disfigurement which imperatively demands a veil.



No. 344. A Fur Coat and Corded Skirt from Vienna.

For Description see this Page.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirt, 1s. 0½d. *: Foundation Skirt or Coat, each 6½d., post free, of* Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

The evening gown, illustrated at No. 345, has on the right arm a spray of white campanula, on the left a drapery of sky-blue chiffon, which merges into the bow of chiffon and lace. The shoulder-straps and chain are of pearls. The bodice is of sky-blue satin, draped with delicate white lace. The skirt is of blue panne (there is more panne seen in blue than in any other shade), the side breadths edged with applications of lace. Blue cloth could replace the panne, which, however, is not so dear as it was last year. Six yards of 48-inch cloth would make this trained skirt, the bodice taking 1½ yards of 22-inch satin.

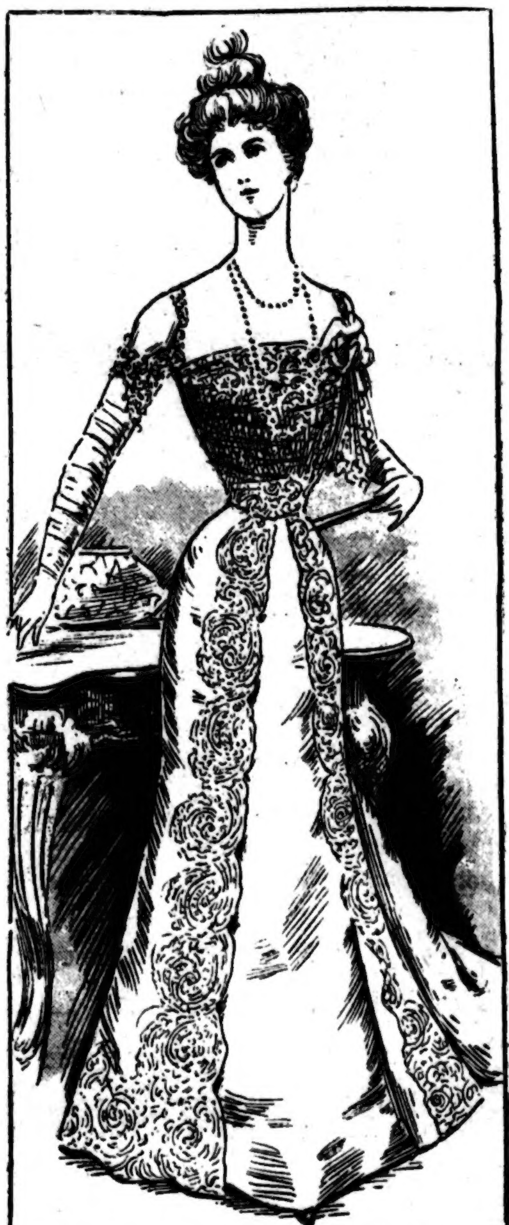
Cloth evening gowns are very much in vogue among women of fine presence. They are made with severe simplicity as to cut. There is no doubt that cloth of the very fine and supple make and in very delicate shades—as, for instances, the pale pastel shades—fashions evening gowns of supreme distinction. There are, of course, women to whom such gowns are not in the least suited.

It is the extreme delicacy of the new cloths which has initiated the movement towards tucks and pleats in skirts; a movement which is proceeding with such vigour that something new appears every day, and it is difficult to forsee the end. For the present, oddly enough, these pleats and tucks are far more seen in day than in evening gowns, although for evening wear they would be far less inconvenient. To lift pleated skirts out of the mud of the streets is almost an impossibility, for they are always made apart from their foundations.

At No. 344 is given a new corded skirt, which is less voluminous than a pleated one would be, although, like all skirts of this character, it has a separate foundation. A very fine supple grey satin cloth was used for this skirt (4½ yards), which is in five breadths, the seams hidden in the cordings, the edge simply hemmed. This is a charmingly pretty skirt.

The coat worn by the lady in the corded skirt is a smart little model in caracul, the revers and collar faced with Chinchilla. This would be a charming model for a spring coat, carried out in black satin or *peau de soie* (4 yards), lined with mauve glacé, fastening with steel buttons, the collar and revers faced with tucked mauve panne (or mirror velvet).

All fair beauties will rejoice that the real old-fashioned pale blue—a blue which has nothing of the turquoise colouring in its composition—is again in vogue. The most picturesque of picture hats are to be seen in tucked panne of this generally becoming colour. There is something very simple and innocent in pale blue; and while it is in vogue it will be as well for admirers of the colour often to wear it. We are promised blue tulle hats in the summer, gathered on wires.



No. 345. A Viennese Evening Gown.

For Description see this Page.

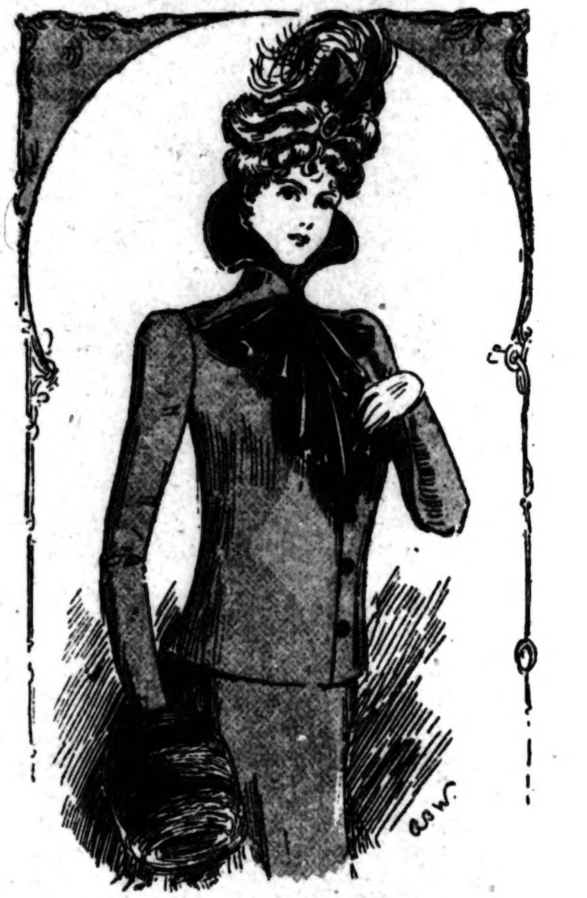
Price of Paper Patterns, Skirt or Bodice, each 6½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

LONDON.

Side by side with the pleated or tucked skirt, which is being evolved in such dainty variety for spring wear, the plain skirt, richly decorated with applications of cloth or satin, must be noted. The strap trimming has now arrived at perfection, and it means an enormous rise in the price of dresses. Just think what it means! The applied cloth is tacked on the parts to be decorated; the outline of the selected pattern is carefully marked out with tacking; then the machinist (she must be first-class) stitches over the tacking; lastly, the superfluous applied cloth is cut away close to the stitching. This means great labour and skilled labour.

Moreover, to strap like this all the seams and edges of a coat means nearly doubling the quantity of cloth required. Our smart dressmakers allow one-and-three-quarter yards of cloth for straps on a coat which cuts into two yards. The skirt is equally elaborate and expensive.

Satin strapping takes less stuff, as it is put on in the form of bias bands (as much as thirty-six yards of strapping was employed on one smart coat and skirt). But it is more difficult to apply.



No. 346. A New Coat.

For Description see pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 6½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

The pattern has to be tacked or chalked out on the garment, then the strapping has to be tacked in place, the edges, of course, being neatly turned in When the dressmaker has completed this harassing task, she hands the work over to the machinist. Of course seams are made and pressed before the strapping is commenced. The lining comes afterwards.

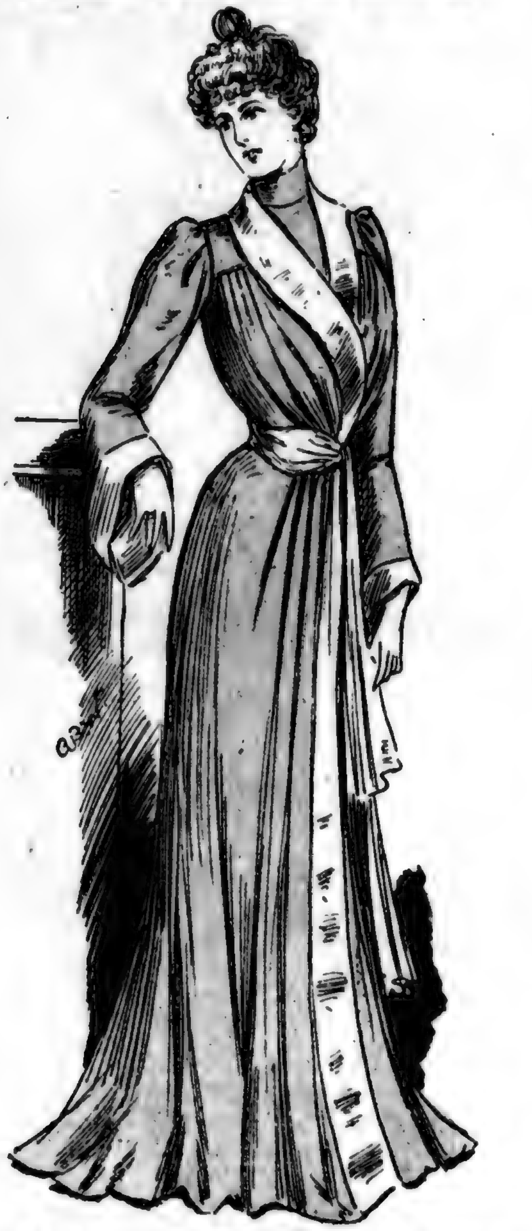
One of the loveliest forms of strapping is the pale-coloured (or black) cloth straps applied to the seams and edges of coats and capes of velours du Nord. Smart little velvet coats are strapped with black, buff, or almond green cloth, carefully stitched in silk to match, with the happiest effect.

A novelty is fringed lace, tinted to the colour of string. It is at present expensive, and it cannot be recommended to any but those who can afford to indulge in the fleeting whims of fashion. Far better is it to purchase a piece of good lace, which is always pleasing to the eye, even if not considered by the ultra particular as "quite the thing." This fringed lace is also made in that coarse Maltese style, which is in appearance much like Yak lace. It is distinctly smart in conjunction with black, but it is not so happy when used as a trimming on light gowns, the coarse, stiff fringe being somewhat ineffective.

The bolero has taken on a new lease of life. It owes its perennial resuscitation to the longing woman of small means has to wear some trifle of the more expensive fabrics which adorn her richer rivals. Cut panne, for instance, is a very expensive thing unless we are contented with the small fragment which will cut a short, seamless bolero. The revival of the bolero has, of course, brought draped corselets and belts again to the fore. Here is another means of using the delicate drapable plush which everybody wants to wear—be it only ½ yard in the form of a rosette in the hat.

A very pretty trimming for velvet collars and cuffs is to strap the edge with stitched satin in a contrasting shade, mauve or grey, for example. Whoever has a scrap of handsome velvet, cloth, or satin by them can use it now, for our belts, boleros, collars, and cuffs display the daintiest combinations of materials and colours.

We had been promised a great deal of black—the finest black cloth or satin strapped with colour. Black, alas! has become the only possible wear this spring for thousands of English families, rich and poor; and, therefore, for those who now wear colours black will possibly be looked at rather askance. Mauve straps on black and grey, will be a pretty suggestion, however, for half-mourning.



No. 347. "Japanese" Dressing Gown.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 6½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Some pretty hats have appeared of late. Those of velvet, lined with folded chiffon, are very becoming—that is to say, if the colour of the chiffon is judiciously chosen with reference to the complexion. Now that such bright coloured cloth suits are so much worn, it follows that black hats are popular. Red, turquoise blue, strawberry pink, mignonette green, and pastel blue frieze coats and skirts are frequently seen. The headgear which looks best with them is either a black velvet hat, with a chiffon lining, or a fur toque to match the fur tie.

RESULT

OF THE

DECEMBER MISSING WORD COMPETITION.

Prizes—One Hundred Handsome Photogravures.

THE FIRST PRIZE, "SILENT PERSUASION" (framed), by Alma Tadema, R.A., has been awarded to Miss MORGAN, Bow Road.

THE SECOND PRIZE, "MUSIC WHEN SOFT VOICES DIE," by W. O. Orchardson, R.A., has been won by Mrs. M. BELL, Rhyl.

THE THIRD PRIZE, "DAY DREAMS," by Henry Ryland, has been awarded to M M. CLARKE, Bayswater.

The following competitors (25) have each won a photogravure (value one guinea):—

Miss M. J. Harley, Kensington.
Mrs. Elizabeth Topping, Manchester.
Miss Mabel Horsepool, Canterbury.
Miss Ethel M. Irving, Keswick.
Mrs. Schofield, Boston.
Mrs. Harper, Norwich.
Miss Emily Parker, Boscombe.
Mrs. Norman Lang, Forest Gate.
Miss Kate L. Scott, Southampton.
Mrs. Williams, Sawbridgeworth.
Miss N. Hester, London, E.C.
Miss M. Anderson, Wimbledon.
Miss T. Plomer-Walker, Southsea.
Mrs. Smith-Rewse, St. Kildare.
Mrs. Littlechild, Cambridge.
Miss Stephens, Paignton.
Miss Dora Farr, Brighton.
Mrs. Galloway, Bolton.
Miss Plummer, Durham.
Miss Van, Carshalton.
Mrs. E. Poulter, Pokesdown.
Miss B. West, Brighton.
Miss R. G. Knox, Dungiven.
Mrs. Alf. Johnstone, Lasswade.
Miss E. E. Oakford, Camden Road.

A Consolation Prize (a photogravure, value 10s. 6d.) has been awarded to the following seventy-two competitors:—

Miss Levesque, Bodmin.
Miss C. Allen, Folkestone.
Mrs. Keene, Bletchingley.
Miss R. Jennings, Sudbury.
Miss May Stewart, Bristol.
Miss Engelhart, Brixton Hill.
Miss M. Spain, Jersey.
Miss Schofield, New York.
Mrs. H. P. Guthrie, Stamford.
Miss Henderson, Hastings.
Miss I. Shuttleworth, Highgate.
Miss E. J. Graham, Dublin.
Mrs. A. E. Robinson, Strood.
Mrs. A. H. Charlton, Sunderland.
Miss Rose Bourdillon, Wells.
Miss Mary Francis, Norfolk.
Miss Edith Metcalfe, Watford.
Mrs. J. P. Lallen, Wigan.
Miss J. Duncomb, Hove.
Mrs. Parker, Ealing.
Miss R. Coomber, Tunbridge Wells.
Mrs. R. C. McInnes, Wakefield.
Miss E. Jones, Wolverhampton.
Mrs. Thornton, Wexford.
Miss E. F. Smith, Penrith.
Mrs. W. R. Cartledge, East Sheen.
Mrs. L. F. Strachan, Hurstpierpoint.
Miss Adding Scott, Arbroath.
Mrs. Grigson, Duloe.
Miss Rose, Tooting.
Miss M. Hillas, Burnley.
Miss Lilian Humby, Jersey.
Mrs. Boyle, Colwyn Bay.
Mrs. Hugh Parry, Manchester.
Mrs. F. Charlton, Kingston-on-Thames.
Mrs. C. J. Sayer, Wallington.
Mrs. Paton, Blanchory.
Miss E. M. Gladstone, London, W.
Mrs. A. Rees, Pwllheli.
Miss Fraser, Clonbrin, Kildare.
Mrs. F. R. Hester, Aylesbury.
Mrs. A. O. Allen, Hull.
Miss Allen, Thursk.
Mrs. F. B. Gadsby, Derby.
Miss Edith Molini, Weybridge.
Miss Callender, Budleigh Salterton.
Mrs. Warburton, Tougham.
Miss Mase, Downham Market.
Mrs. Clement Burleigh, Brooklyn Hanishen.
Mrs. Craig, Lasswade.
Mrs. T. G. Kimber, Southampton.
Miss L. S. Hinds, Stockport.
Mrs. E. Todd, Goring.
Mrs. S. Waggott, Newcastle.
Mrs. E. Whittington, Brighton.
Miss Constance Fletcher, Birmingham.
Miss Nicholson, Penrith.
Mrs. L. Turner, York.
Miss Fannie C. Curtis, Neath.
Miss B. J. Cory, East Finchley.
Mrs. H. Reveley, Leyton.
Miss Moore, London, W.C.
Miss L. E. Brook-Hollinshead, Sidmouth.
Mrs. Slinger, Settle.
Mrs. W. T. Ison, Cambridge.
Mrs. Usher Clarke, Teddington.
Miss Mary Godson, London, W.
Miss Emily More, Chipping Hill.
Mrs. Ethel Francis-Burney, London, S.E.
Miss Clara Burton, Walsall.
Mrs Haygarth, Gravesend.
Miss Webster, Nottingham.

Below is the correct rendering of the text with the twelve missing words inserted:—

For some days there had been *decidedly* strained relations between Reginald and Ethelinda. At last, over some *trifling* difference of opinion, *matters* came to a crisis.

"Reginald," exclaimed Ethelinda with *much* heat, "you are getting simply *insupportable.* I will no longer put up with your overbearing *ways.*

Reginald, on his *part*, was only too ready for a quarrel. "There is no *necessity* for you to put up with them," he replied, not too *politely*.

"I will never *address* a word to you again!" cried Ethelinda.

For all answer Reginald *rushed* out of the room, *banging* the door behind him.

For particulars of a New Competition see page 39.

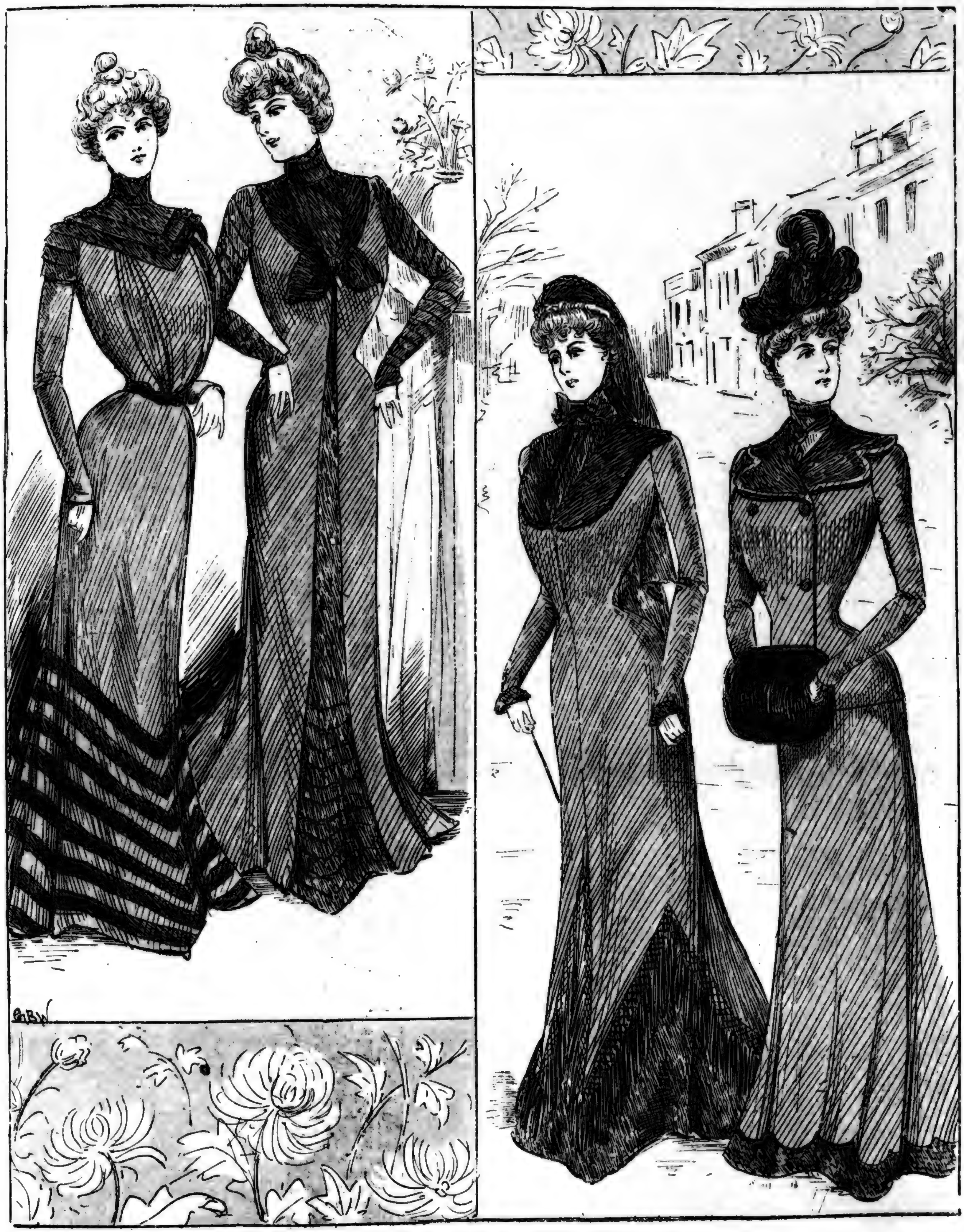
The Result of the January Competition will be given in the March Number.

THE NEW TUCKED AND PLEATED SKIRTS.

We have a large variety of patterns of these graceful novelties, all the latest from Paris.

Price of Paper Patterns: According to the elaboration of the tucks or pleats, the patterns of the skirts cost each from 1s. 0½d. to 2s. 0½d., post free. As these skirts are never lined, but are mounted on a separate foundation, the foundation skirts cost 6½d. each, post free.

MADAME MYRA'S Paper Pattern Department, 95, Regent Street, W.



NOS. 348 TO 351. STYLES FOR MOURNING.

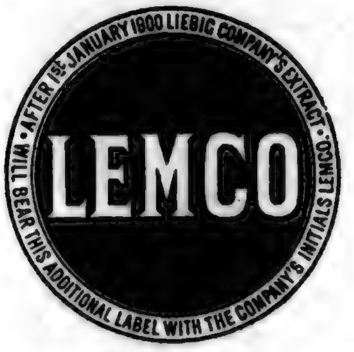
For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Coat, Bodice or Skirts, each 6½d.; Princess Gowns, each 1s. 0½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Notes of the Month.

WITH this grievous war clouding the country, spirits are depressed, and private energy is arrested, until each one of us tries to amend the national trials to the best of his or her ability. Women who have to stand by and suffer rather than to do and dare, can lend their help, without worrying the Government, with offers to go out as assistant nurses—women who have never seen a serious wound or fracture! A splendid example is shown us by the wives of our prominent officers at the front, who remind women of one thing all can do, and that is to knit socks, caps, sweaters, and other woollen comforts for our troops. Mrs. Talbot Coke (Debdale Hall, Mansfield, Notts), will be pleased to receive any such woollen garments to be forwarded to South Africa.

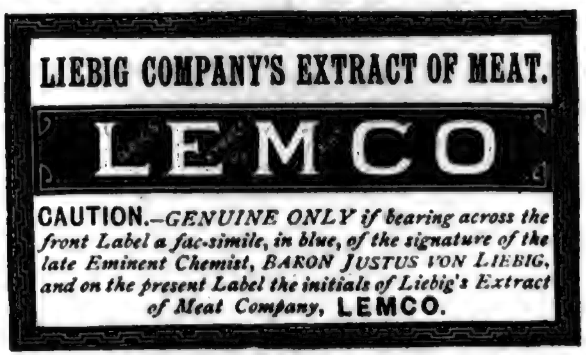
It is quite a shock to hear that the Liebig Company, of Beef Extract fame, are going to alter the name of the company, and their trade mark. No longer shall we see the familiar blue signature with the quill pen dotting the "i." But there have been complaints as to confusion arising between the Liebig Company's extract and other brands, by which consumers did not always get what they asked for. Lemco is the new name of the Liebig Company—Liebig's Extract of Meat Company. Below we give a facsimile of the two new labels.



AFTER 1st JANUARY 1900 LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT WILL BEAR THIS ADDITIONAL LABEL WITH THE COMPANY'S INITIALS LEMCO.

LEMCO

The round label covers the top of the wrapper, while the oblong one will be found covering the back of the jars. It behoves all consumers to see that the jars they buy show these two labels; otherwise they will have to put up with an inferior copy of the best Meat Extract in the market.



LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF MEAT.

LEMCO

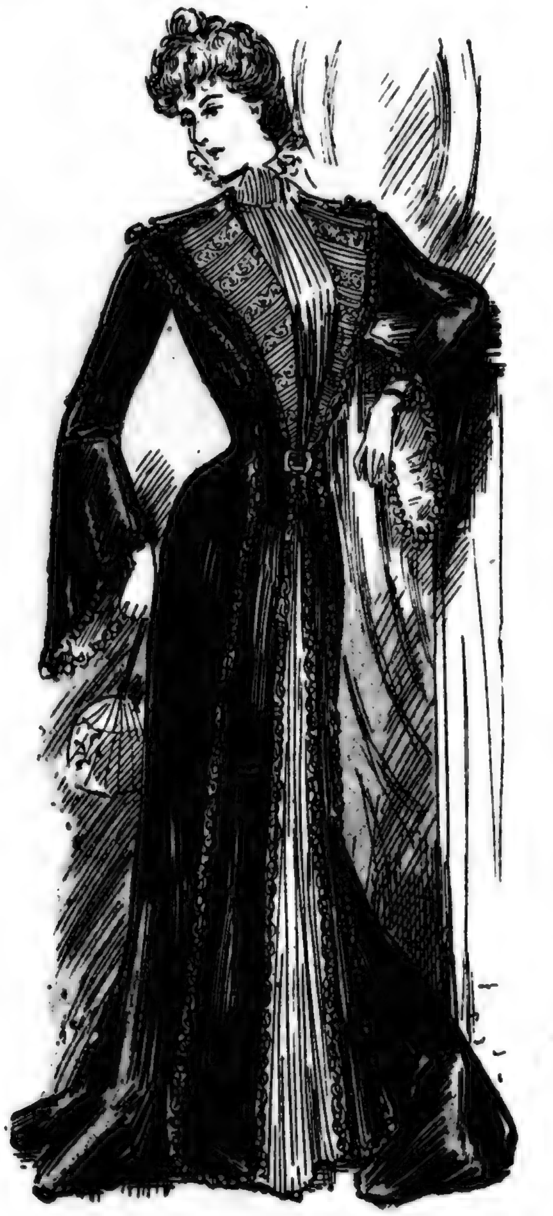
CAUTION.—*GENUINE ONLY if bearing across the front Label a fac-simile, in blue, of the signature of the late Eminent Chemist, BARON JUSTUS VON LIEBIG, and on the present Label the initials of Liebig's Extract of Meat Company,* LEMCO.

"Our Girl's Cookery," by the author of "Tasty Dishes," is a capital shilling book, containing innumerable useful recipes for a modest household, including a great number of recipes for warming cold meats and innumerable inexpensive soups. The recipes are very clear, and the merest child could understand them. (James Clarke and Co., 13 and 14, Fleet Street, E.C.)

The fifth edition of that useful book, "Indigestion, Corpulency, Gout," has just appeared (by Thomas Dutton, Ph.D.). The causes are clearly explained, and a rational treatment and diet are recommended which have brought relief to thousands. The book is published by Henry Kimpton, medical publisher, 82, High Holborn, W.C., price 3s. Before resorting to drastic and expensive measures, dyspeptics would do well to read this little book.

Nobody now uses block salt for table use, salt which had to be ground (not too finely) with great labour. Table salt is now to be had in packets, ready ground with a beautiful, even fineness. The best table salt of the kind is D. Bumsted and Co.'s Royal British Table Salt, such as is supplied to Her Majesty the Queen. It is to be had at all stores and grocers.

We are now in the lull preceding a general activity in the domain of dress, so I hope that our readers will have more time than usual to bestow upon their accomplishments. A new batch of songs will be required for the coming season, and I can thoroughly recommend a batch of six (six new songs is no bad repertoire for even a good amateur), published by Messrs. Enoch and Sons (14, Great Marlborough Street, W.) who certainly possess the services of our most popular song composers. I have to chronicle a new song by A. L. (that delightful resuscitator of old ballads), entitled, "Valentine Days," on Charles Kingsley's words. It is published in two keys, and though the compass is a little large for the average amateur, the song is so pretty and simple that it is sure to be most popular. Then there is Mdlle. Chaminade's new song, "Jewels of the Night" (Nuit Etoilée), with French and English words. It was written for a contralto who can take F (with G as an alternative), but it is also published to suit a mezzo soprano and soprano. It is a pleasing and telling song, of a type specially suited to a rich-toned voice. Gerald Lane's "Under the Flag," is a stirring song, of special value in these days of strife and patriotism. The character of the song is masculine, though the different keys adapt it to most voices. Florence Gerard's "A Word of Praise," is of a religious tone, very graceful and telling (in three keys, to suit all voices). "The Pilgrim's Hope," by Paul Rodney, (two keys), offers no difficulty to the average amateur, while it is effective and pleasing. "Among the Roses," is a very pretty simple song, by Paul Rodney, published in two keys.



No. 352. An Art Tea Gown.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 1s. 0½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Seekers after new dance music will appreciate "Torero," a Spanish waltz by S. Translateuse. "Colombine," an Air de Ballet for the piano, is by the celebrated composer, Edward Germain (Enoch and Sons).

A tie of ermine or white fox, with muff and toque to match, looks pretty and is smart when worn with a black cloth suit by anyone in half-mourning.

White ermine sets are very much reduced at the winter sales, and they are therefore in much request with ardent bargain hunters, as they will probably be in demand next year.

DESCRIPTION
OF THE
COLOURED FASHION PLATE
Presented with this Number.

Fig. 1. Cut and make a skirt lining in six gores (seamed back and front), covering the lower edge of the tablier with velvet. Cover the breadths with six gores of cloth, the two backs trained the two fronts with rounded corners. Hem the skirt. Trim with fur, which rises to hide the centre front seam. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 348. Drape with a two-piece velvet yoke, a two-piece velvet corselet, a bolero back, and two crossed fronts of fur-trimmed cloth. Band collar of velvet, supported by bones. Two-piece lining sleeve, covered at the top with velvet, the rest with cloth (headed by fur). Quantity of material required, 48-inch cloth, 6 yards; 20-inch velvet, 4 yards.

Fig. 2. Cut a five-gore skirt in lining, skirt finished with a cloth-covered flounce (like the foundation of No. 358). Good model for cloth. Unlined three-piece tunic of cloth, fastening with hooks in the side seam. Hem with several rows of silver braid. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 348. Drape with a two-piece gauged yoke of satin, divided by a velvet band (brown), also with a back, a small left front, and a double-breasted right front of braided cloth, piped with velvet. Velvet belt. Braided band collar, supported by bones. Braided two-piece sleeve, with added bell cuff of brown velvet, stiffened, lined with silk Brown bone or velvet buttons. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 7 yards.

Fig. 3. Seven-gore shaped skirt of tomato rep, lined with mercerised cotton. Narrow black braid trims the edge. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Drape with a back and two double-breasted fronts of cloth, the fronts cut with revers, which are faced with braided cloth. One-piece collar, faced with braided cloth. The bodice buttons invisibly, the button holes made in the right front and lining. One-piece bishop sleeve (with braided cuff) made up on a coat sleeve lining. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 6 yards.

Fig. 4. Lovely style for rich cloth, peau de soie or velveteen. Six-gore skirt, lined with sateen, hemmed, the lower edge trimmed with white guipure, which continues up the left tablier seam. Box pleat at the back (where is the pocket and opening). Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Veil the top with a tucked yoke front of white satin. Cover the vest with a stretched back, a narrow left front and a wide right front of the skirt material trimmed with guipure. Finish the seams. 2-piece sleeve, with bell cuff trimmed with lace,

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

A SYRUP OF ROOTS AND HERBS which has cured Indigestion, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Gout, and Blood Impurities for Thirty years, and is now used in over 572,000 British Homes. Produces a clear, rosy complexion, and beautifies the skin from within.

THE BEST TONIC ON EARTH.

lined with sateen. White satin belt. Tucked ear-point collar, supported by bones. Quantity of 24-inch material required, 13 yards.

Fig. 5. Cut in lining a 5-gore foundation skirt (with shaped flounce like No. 358) in one, with a Swiss corselet Cover the corselet part with heliotrope velvet the shaped flounce with heliotrope satin cloth Make a sun-ray skirt out of a square of cloth (made up of breadths). Mark out the waist, round off the corners, and hem the right length. Send the skirt to Mr. Hammett (190, Euston Road) to be pleated. When finished, cut away the top to the required length, leaving straps of cloth at intervals. Secure the skirt on the velvet corselet at the hips, fixing down the longer straps with metal buttons. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Drape with a velvet plastron, with a back and two crossed draped fronts of cloth. Velvet boned collar. Two-piece cloth sleeve. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 9 yards; velvet (20-inches), 1½ yards.

Price of Paper Patterns: Skirts, Foundation Skirts, and Bodices, each 6½d; Sun-Ray Skirt, 1s. 0½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, Regent Street, W.

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A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER AND HIS FRIENDS.

A WELL-KNOWN Sunday School Teacher has told an impressive and interesting story to the representative of a newspaper. As might have been expected, we learn from this paper (the *Dean Forest Mercury*) that his character is of the highest. He has instructed a successful class, and his word can be thoroughly relied upon. The young man alluded to is William Field, son of Mr. William Field, of Littledean Hill, Cinderford, Dean Forest. The newspaper representative adds that he has known Mr. Field and his family for many years, and the teacher in particular. He is a clever and well-educated young man of twenty-three years, employed in one of the largest collieries in the district. Early last year he was stricken down by an attack of influenza, and other complications supervening, he was in a very critical condition for some time, and was the subject of much prayer and anxiety on the part of his immediate friends, all of whom are active Christian workers, and also of his fellow teachers in the Sunday School at Greenbottom (an off-shoot of the Baptist Church there), where he had a very successful class, being a very faithful and beloved teacher, all of which facts the newspaper writer vouches for. Since Mr. Field's recovery, the writer interviewed him with the following result:—

The Writer: "I am glad to see you are quite well again, Mr. Field, and want to ask you a plain question or two about the same, as I know you will say only what is true. We know that you were not expected to recover. How did it happen so unexpectedly that you got well again?"

Mr. Field: "After the crisis of the influenza was passed, I began slowly to mend, but it was very slow; and I suffered a good deal from pains between the shoulders. One day I happened to read in a paper of the cures effected by Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people, and it seemed to me they were just what I wanted. I determined to try them. The first dose or two relieved me. My mother thought as they did me so much good I had better try another box, which I did, and as you know, I got able to do work—much sooner than I expected to, or should have done, I believe, but for the pills."

The Writer: "How many did you take?"

Mr. Field: "I took between two and three boxes altogether; and I was ill about eleven weeks."

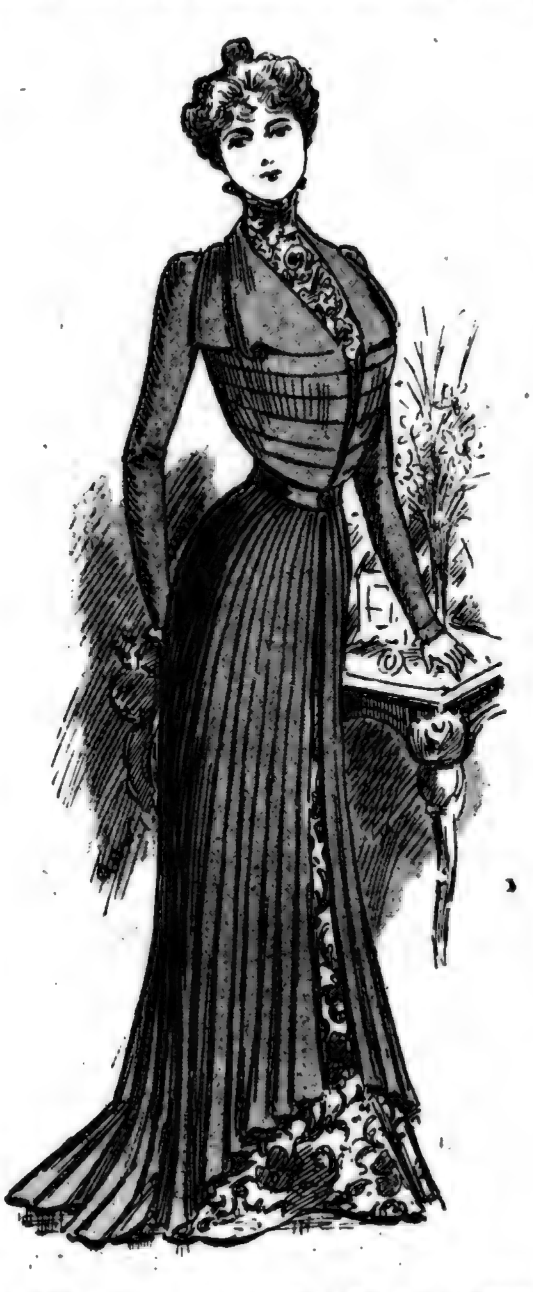
The Writer: "There is no mistake about the matter, or doubt as to the value of the pills?"

Mr. Field: "Not in the least, and you know I can have no object, and am not likely to say what I do not really believe."

The Writer: "You have had no relapse since you began to go to work again?"

Mr. Field: "No, I am thankful to say. I have been able to attend to my work and social and religious duties ever since, the latter of which is a great pleasure to me, as you know."

All classes praise Dr. Williams' pink pills for the way in which they have cured paralysis, locomotor ataxy, rheumatism and sciatica, diseases arising from impoverishment of the blood, scrofula, rickets, chronic erysipelas, consumption of the bowels and lungs, anæmia, pale and sallow complexion, general muscular weakness, indigestion, loss of appetite, palpitations, pains in the back, nervous headache and neuralgia, early decay, all forms of female weakness, and hysteria. These pills are a tonic, not a purgative. They are genuine only with the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and are sold by chemists, and by Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Holborn Viaduct, London, at two shillings and ninepence a box, or six boxes for thirteen and nine. Pink-coloured pills sold loose or from glass jars are not Dr. Williams' pink pills; accept them only in the pink closed wrapper as above described.



No. 353. ONE OF THE NEW PLEATED SKIRTS.

For Descriptions see pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Foundation Skirt or Bodice, each 6½d. Pleated Skirt, 1s. 0½d., post free of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

FINE CROCHET EDGING, 2d., 4d., yard; Knicker Sets, 9d., 12 patterns 6d.; Oval Doyleys, damask centres, 2s. set of 5; Cake Doyleys, 1s. pair; Gentlemen's Knitted Socks, 1s. 2d., 1s. 6d.; Ladies' Stockings, 1s. 8d.—Miss JONES, 25, Three Colt Street, Limehouse, London.

MYRA'S LIBRARY OF NEEDLEWORK.

An important Series of HANDBOOKS, plentifully illustrated, dealing with all kinds of **Plain and Fancy Needlework**, for Amateur or Professional workers. The HANDBOOKS are published monthly, and the back numbers are always kept in print.

The Handbooks are published at ONE PENNY EACH (1½d., post free). They are also sold in assorted packets of fifteen, at 1/6, post free.

HANDBOOKS ALREADY PUBLISHED.

No. 1, SEQUIN AND JEWEL EMBROIDERY.—This handsome handbook contains over 20 Illustrations and full descriptions for making this new and beautiful style of Art Needlework. The most expensive Sequin trimming can be made at very small cost.

No. 2, WOOL CROCHET WORK. (PART I.)—Contains 45 Illustrations. Full descriptions for making more than 20 useful articles for Ladies', Children's, and Gentlemen's wear. The descriptions are carefully prepared, and are thoroughly reliable.

No. 3, DRAWN WORK. (PART I.)—23 Examples of this pretty and effective needlework, with full descriptions for beginners. This work is executed on Linen, Art Linen, and Canvas.

No. 4, PLAIN NEEDLEWORK.—48 Illustrations. How to use a Needle, Stitches, Seams, Patching, Bands, Run and Fell Seams, Gussets, Tucks, Gatherings, Button Holes, Hemming, &c.

No. 5, SMOCKING. (PART I.)—Contains 28 Illustrations of this very pretty and useful form of needlework, which is invaluable in working children's clothes, ladies' blouses, shirts, &c., in various silks and cottons.

No. 6, COTTON KNITTING.—29 Illustrations.—How to knit Shamrock, Palm Leaf, Cockle Shell, Seed Point and Diamond, Maltese, Cingalese, and Heart Lace, Greek Insertion, Pomegranate Border, &c. Also complete designs for Lace Collars, Doylies, &c.

No. 7, ORIENTAL EMBROIDERIES.—This handbook has been prepared by an expert, and contains very beautiful and original designs in Egyptian, Algerian, Bulgarian, and Hungarian Embroidery. 29 Illustrations.

No. 8, STOCKING KNITTING. (PART I.)—22 Illustrations. Is an exceedingly practical and instructive pamphlet showing how to knit the different styles of toe and heel, ladies' stockings, gentlemen's socks, and children's night socks.

No. 9, MACRAME LACE.—Contains 27 Illustrations of this most ancient of crafts. Many novel and pleasing designs are given, and the working is carefully described and clearly illustrated.

No. 10, COTTON CROCHET.—An excellent guide to the making of Lace D'Oyleys, Borders, Edgings, and Greek Insertion. 21 Illustrated designs.

No. 11, Netting.—20 Illustrations. How to make Fishing and Tennis Nets, Hammocks, Shopping Bags, D'Oyleys, Purses, &c.

No. 12, CANVAS WORK.—Illustrated by 32 engravings. Contains many beautiful designs that can be applied to a variety of purposes.

No. 13, STOCKING KNITTING. (PART II.)—Deals exhaustively with gentlemen's cycling stockings with ornamental tops, ladies' decorated stockings, clox, openwork fronts, &c. 12 Illustrations.

No. 14, SIMPLE EMBROIDERIES.—Contains 29 Illustrations of simple but effective embroideries worked on such ordinary and easily obtained materials as cretonne, huckaback, glass cloth, &c. The instructions and diagrams are very clear and explicit.

No. 15, WOOL CROCHET WORK. (PART II.)—14 Illustrations. Very pretty designs for working Shawls, Sofa Rugs, Ladies' Vests, Tam-o'-Shanter, Infant's Jacket and Shoes.

No. 16, FILET GUIPURE LACE.—Contains some very beautiful designs. The working is simply described, and the merest novice could not fail to understand the very careful designs and sketches (27 in number) which accompany the letterpress.

No. 17, CROCHET LACE.—20 Illustrations of Link Pattern, Maltese, Diamond, Fan and Braid Lace. The descriptions are carefully written, and some very handsome designs are given.

No. 18, LACE BRAID WORK.—Illustrated by 32 engravings. Describes the working of Picotina, Honiton Lace, Pompadour, and other Embroideries suitable for Tea and Sideboard Cloths, Duchesse Table Covers, Sachets, Book Covers, &c.

No. 19, WOOL KNITTING.—How to knit Babies' Boots, Gaiters, Socks, and Bonnets, Shawls, Underskirts, &c. 20 Illustrations.

No. 20, RIBBON & OTHER EMBROIDERIES.—Contains a variety of designs for Tea-Cloths, Table Centres, Tea Cosies, Nightdress Cosies, Cushion Covers, &c. 27 Illustrations.

No. 21, SMOCKING. (PART II.).—Illustrated by 29 engravings. Contains some very pretty and effective designs, all of which can easily be worked by following the simple instructions given.

No. 22, DRESSMAKING. (PART I.—THE BODICE).—Treats of the Choice of Materials, Self-Measurements: Cutting, Finishing, Pressing and Boning Bodices. Illustrated by nearly 30 diagrams.

No. 23, EMBROIDERY STITCHES.

No. 24, DRAWN WORK. (PART II.)

TO FOLLOW:—

STOCKING KNITTING. (PART III.)
WOOL CROCHET WORK. (PART III.)
SMOCKING (PART III.), &c.

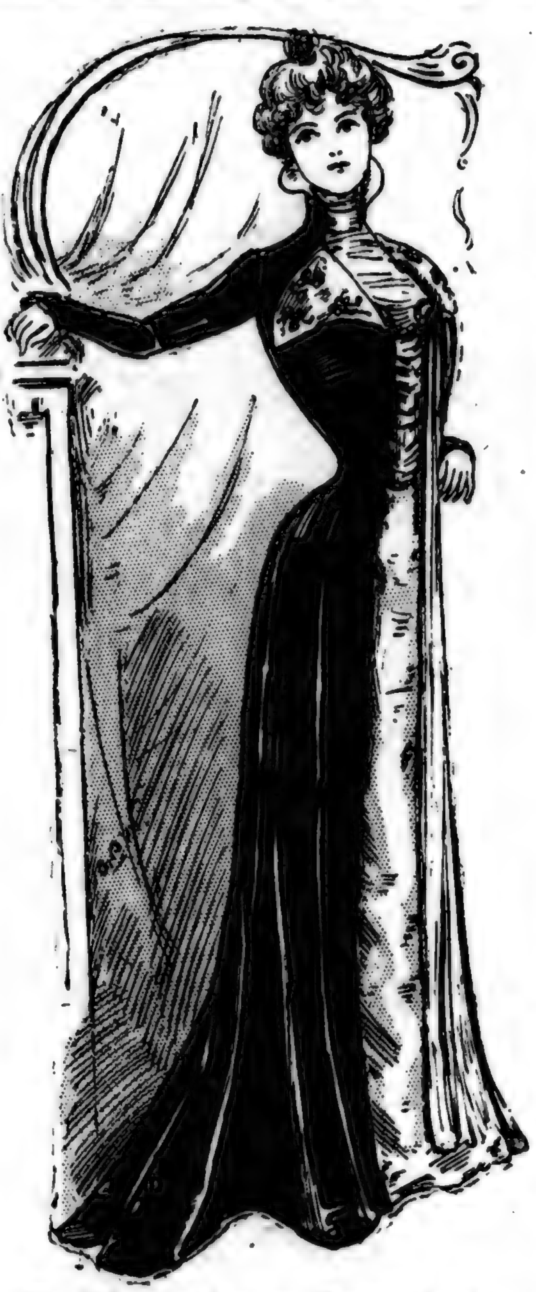
BEETON & CO., Ltd, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, London. E.C.

Shopping by Post.

TOO many women have "standing" occupations—that is, some means of livelihood which necessitates an erect attitude. The shop girl is, perhaps, the prime sufferer in this respect. "Sufferer" is the correct word, as the constantly erect posture is unsuited to the female physique. Even if the woman always on her feet escapes internal injury she suffers cruelly with tender feet. However, this last evil, not being vital, can be remedied. The feet must be kept very clean with repeated foot baths. Then the constant use of Vitalité socks is really invaluable. Vitalité socks are slipped into any boot or shoe. They are of a fibrous consistence, which permits ventilation, and which has a refreshing elasticity (most grateful to very tired feet). The socks can be obtained direct from the "Vitalité" Sock Company. Plevna Road, St. Ann's Road, South Tottenham, N.

The Vitalité Slippers are being introduced in our hospitals for the convalescents, who need a perfectly comfortable and hygienic article for their listless feet. These slippers, by the bye, are very pretty, made in red, blue, pink, green, and gold brocade. They should be tried, for they combine great warmth and protection with the necessary ventilation, elasticity, and lightness. The Vitalité Sock Company will send a price-list on application.

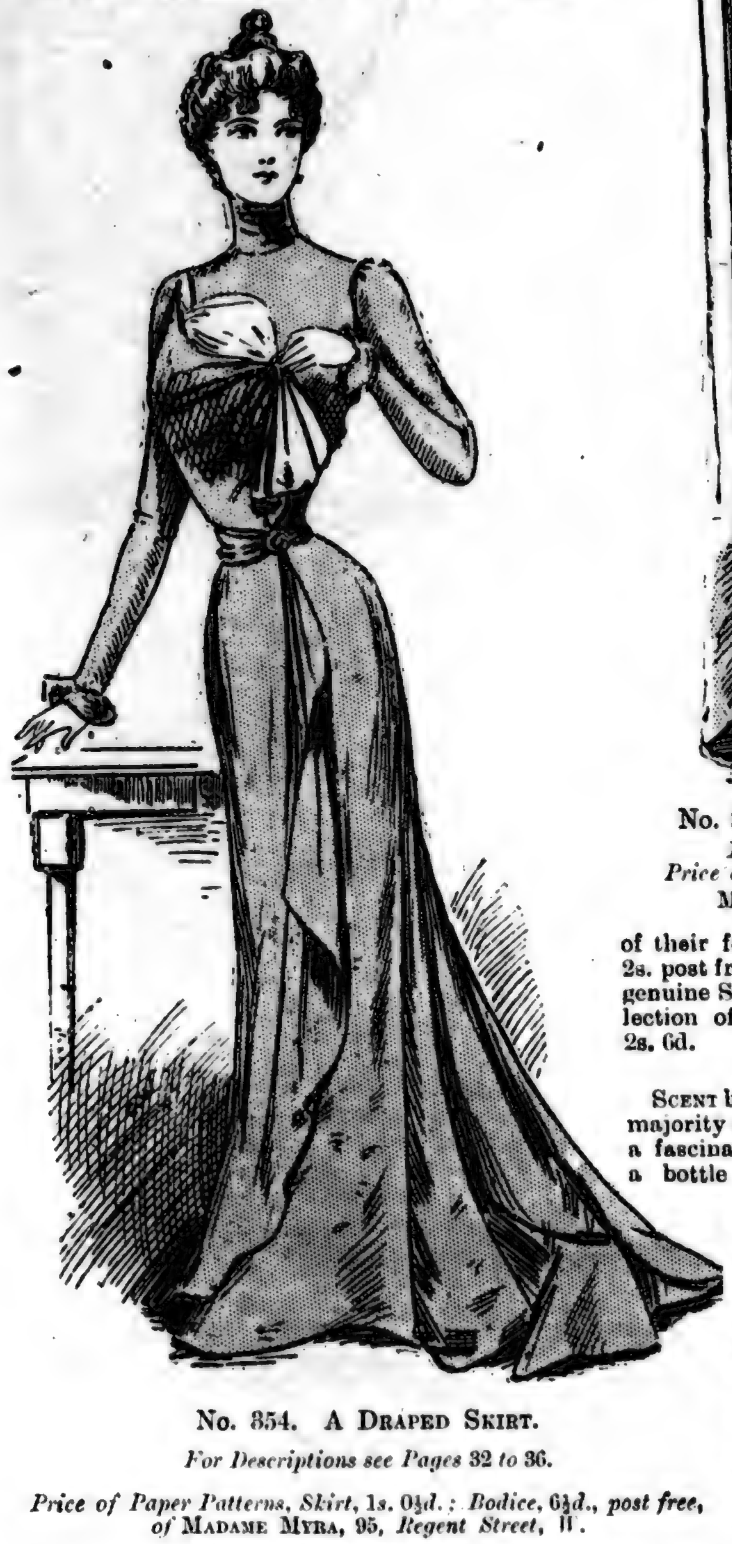
CIRCUMSTANCES often compel a family to go into retirement for a while, and social matters vary at such a rate nowadays that a year's absence from social functions means a total ignorance of the new conditions obtaining thereat. People who are about to renew their attendances at informal dances should send to Mr. Mozart Allen, music publisher, 70, South Portland Street, Glasgow, for his "Ball-Room Companion," which will place before them all the sort of dance music the musical visitors, each in turn, will be asked to play for the entertainment of their fellow-guests. The piano selection costs 2s. post free. Mr. Mozart Allen publishes reels and genuine Scotch dances, and he has a charming collection of old Scottish songs (without words) at 2s. 6d.



No. 355. AN ARTISTIC INDOOR GOWN.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 1s. 0½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*



No. 354. A DRAPED SKIRT.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirt, 1s. 0½d.: Bodice, 6½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

SCENT being quite a necessary of life to a large majority of women, I am always pleased to notify a fascinating novelty. Every woman should try a bottle of Floradora, the new scent. It is the sweetest of perfumes, recalling the fragrant breath of a cottage garden in late June, when the roses are a blaze of bloom. Though sweet, there is a delicious freshness in the fragrance. A bottle of Floradora in its dainty card case makes a nice little offering to any lady. Floradora can be had straight from the manufacturers, the renowned "Chemists in Flowers," Messrs. J. Grossmith and Son, Newgate Street, London, or through any local chemist or perfumer. The success of Floradora is as great as it deserved.

Palmistry.

(Some delineations crowded out of page 31.)

NIL DESPERANDUM.—There is a change in your life at thirty-one and another at thirty-five. Your position will be better after forty. You must be careful of an influence in your life at the present time.

MISS MACD. (Lincolnshire).—I do not give private answers unless they are "Special." Your marriage will be very soon. Success comes to you later on. You are sensitive, sympathetic, and you like the society of the opposite sex.

MAUD (By Glasgow).—There is a great change coming to you before you are fifty-seven. One member of your family is going to do exceedingly well. You must be careful not to overtry your strength just now.

CARRIE (Nottingham).—There is a great change in your life at fifty. Your impressions are not good; so whether it is favourable or not, I cannot tell. I also think, from what I can see, there will be another change at forty-eight. You are much too sensitive, and take things to heart too much.

JUDY.—You will marry before thirty-five, and your prospects will improve at the same time. There is a long journey at thirty-four.

SALLY (Newcastle).—I can tell very little from your bad impressions, but, from what I can see, your marriage does not take place just yet. Your life looks fairly prosperous and happy. I can see an H and an A in your palm.

LOTUS (Edinburgh).—You are very observant, and rather obstinate. There is a change for you after fifty, and later on a wedding in your family which will please you very much.

FRANCES MACD. (Brighton).—You will marry, but I do not think that it is the one you are engaged to at present. The man you marry you have only known a short time. Your luck improves afterwards.

A. H. T. (Bickley).—You have either just had a change or one is just coming. Your circumstances improve after 40, I advise you to remain in the employ of others. You had an unfortunate love affair five years ago. I do not see any signs of travelling.

TWITTERS (Torquay).—Yes, but your impressions are too bad to say when. You have an excellent business hand, and are orderly and thorough in everything you undertake.

EIGROEG (Oxford).—You will not always remain where you are. You must be very careful of yourself about the age of twenty-five. Marriage shows after that date.

LUCKY GIRL (Bradford).—Your impressions are very bad, but you ought to be married very soon. You will have some money left you at forty. Your hand shows decided literary talent.

ADAIR (Torquay).—You will be married about thirty. Yours is a very strong will, and you will succeed in anything you care to take up.

LUCY S. (Liverpool).—You must be careful abont your money affairs just at the present time. I think they will turn out all right eventually. You had more money when you were twenty-five. There is a change in your life before forty-five.

ANNABELL S. (Liverpool).—Better luck comes to you after fifty-two. There is a new influence coming into your life very shortly. There are several little journeys before you.

M. MUDGE (Truro).—You do not know your future husband yet; he will be more dark than fair. You will be much richer after thirty-five.

MANBRIA (Torquay).—Yours is a methodical hand, and you have plenty of determination and a power of organisation. As far as I can tell from bad impressions you should be married about twenty-five.

GRACE DARLING (Ilford).—Your marriage does not take place just yet, but it is difficult to tell from such smudged hands. You will have good health, and will succeed best with mechanical work.

PRINCESS YUMYUM (Dartford).—Yes, you will certainly marry and get more money at the same time. You have a fairly good business hand, and plenty of determination to ensure success.

VIOLET (Glasgow).—You do not know your future husband yet; but will very soon. You will have good health on the whole, and more money after thirty-five.

SUPER (Weymouth).—You will be much better off in the future. Literary talent is marked in your hand. You will marry before thirty-five.

HUMMING BEE.—Your impressions are very bad. As far as I can see, you already know the man whom you will marry. It is impossible to tell the date, but there will be more money for you afterwards.

KITTY KATE (London).—You will live to old age if you take care, there is rather a bad illness at forty; you will marry before thirty-five, have two children, and more money after thirty-six.

DIMPLES.—Yes, and you already know him now. You are very observant about little things. There is a great change in your life at thirty-one, which will bring you more money.

EMILY (Marske-by-the-Sea).—Certainly. You do not know the man now. Your marriage will make you more prosperous. You will have one child.

AGNESS (Hatfield).—There is one voyage for you in the future. Your marriage entirely depends on yourself. You have a great love of detail, and should be good at doing little things.

ROLLY POLLY.—You will be married about twenty-seven. Be careful of an influence in your hand at the present time. There is a change coming in your life shortly.

HATTIE (Rotherham).—You will marry before forty. The man will have some money of his own. Your business ought to do well after this year.

BRAMBLE (Richmond).—Your impressions are very bad. You will marry very shortly and have plenty of money in the future. You had a bad love affair just about twenty.

QUEEN MAB (Worthing).—You have sent me many impressions, but not one of them is really readable. There is a strong influence in your hand at the present time, and as far as I can see marriage seems very close. You will make an excellent hospital nurse.

UNHAPPY BELL (Aldridge).—I am exceedingly sorry I cannot answer your questions, but the impressions are too hopelessly bad. I can dimly see a change before you. Try and not fret yourself quite so much over little things.

TOPSY ANN (Bridgend).—Your impressions are all smudged. You must put your hand down *flat* when you take them. From what I can see you should be married before thirty. You will have three children.

BOGIE (Ledbury).—Your prospects improve greatly after thirty, and your better circumstances will be the result of marriage. There is travelling for you in the future.

REFRESHING—NOURISHING—SUSTAINING.

CADBURY'S COCOA

Entirely free from all Admixtures, such as Kola, Malt, Hops, &c.

"THE LANCET" (May 27, 1899) says:—"The statement that Cadbury's Cocoa is an absolutely pure article cannot be controverted in view of the results of analysis which, in our hands, this excellent article of food has yielded."

Insist on having CADBURY's (sold only in Packets and Tins), as other Cocoas are sometimes substituted for the sake of extra profit.

Delicious, Nutritive, Digestible.

BENGER'S

FOOD FOR INFANTS, INVALIDS, AND THE AGED.

"Retained when all other Foods are rejected."
London Medical Record.

GOLD MEDAL,
Health Exhibition, London.

BENGER'S FOOD is sold in TINS by Chemists, &c., Everywhere.

The following letter is published by special permission of the Russian Court.

"Balmoral Castle, Scotland, 25th September,
"Sirs,—Please forward to Balmoral Castle one dozen 2/6 Tins of BENGER'S FOOD for H.I.M. THE EMPRESS of RUSSIA, addressed to Miss Coster. We have received the box ordered from Peterhoff.
"Yours truly, F. COSTER."

114 YEARS' REPUTATION.

"BEE HIVE" KNITTING WOOLS

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

UNIQUE FOR Colours, Quality, Softness & Durability.

FREE. If any difficulty in obtaining, give name and address of your Draper, and we will send you Elegant Sample Shade Card with name of nearest Agent.

Manufacturers—J. & J. BALDWIN (*Established 1785*), HALIFAX, ENGLAND.

LADIES AT HOME OR ON TOUR.

SOUTHALLS' (PATENTED) SANITARY TOWELS

(ABSORBENT & ANTISEPTIC).

IN PACKETS OF ONE DOZEN:—

Size 0 ... 6d. Size 2 ... 1/6 Size 4 ... 2/-
Size 1 ... 1/- Size 3 ... 2/- Size X ... 2/9

Size 1 can also be had in packets of Six Towels at 6d.

Sample Packets (marked size S), at 6d., containing three size 0, one each 1, 2, and 4, post free, six stamps.

Southalls' Sanitary Sheets for Accouchement, in Three Sizes, 1/-, 2/-, and 2/6 each.

Sold by Drapers, Ladies' Outfitters, and Chemists throughout the World.

SAMPLES on application to the LADY MANAGER, 17, Bull Street, BIRMINGHAM.

POLISHING—A PLEASURE.

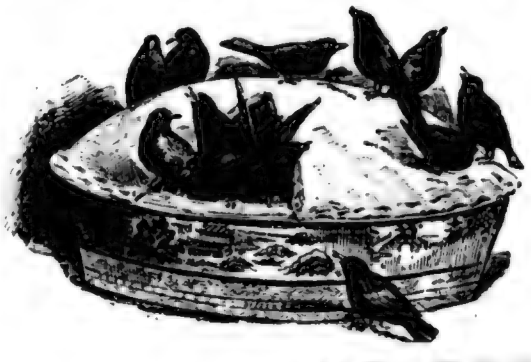
WILL NOT FINGER MARK.

STEPHENSON'S FURNITURE CREAM.

Peerless Carpet and Cloth Soap.

Unsurpassed for Cleaning and Renovating Carpets, &c.

STEPHENSON BROS., BRADFORD.



When the Pie was opened,
The birds began to sing:
"The Praises of Bird's Custard Powder
Will make the whole world ring!"

BIRD'S CUSTARD POWDER

The Unfailing resource of every Lady of the House and successful Housekeeper.

Makes a perfect High-class Custard at a minimum of cost and trouble. Used by all the leading Diplomées of the South Kensington School of Cookery. Invaluable also for a variety of Sweet Dishes, recipes for which accompany each packet. Delicious with all Stewed or Tinned Fruit.

NO EGGS! NO RISK! NO TROUBLE!

TILTON LODGE,
S. W.

Dearest Vic,

Lils wedding went off perfectly. The bridegroom looked a regular dear and Lil seemed supremely happy.

A curious coincidence happened which I must tell you about. When we bridesmaids were putting on our war paint; no, that won't do, I mean when we were dressing, five of us, without any pre-arrangement were found to be wearing P&S corsets, our gowns therefore fitted perfectly. Flossie Manners alone was wearing another make, and there was an ugly wrinkle in her dress which made her quite unhappy - She envied us I can tell you -

As two o'clock approached

P&S CORSETS

are gaining new and delighted friends all over the world. Have you tried them? Select a shape to suit you, and they become an all-day luxury. "Corset comfort" such as you have not known before!

Here are extracts from a few recent letters:—

New Malden.—"Delighted with them."

Birkenhead.—"Afraid they will last me for years; they are so well made and beautifully finished."

Reading.—"The nicest and easiest Corsets I ever put on; they keep the figure together without seeming to press . . . , a great boon and blessing."

Stockwell.—"'P. & S.' Corsets are excellent in every way."

Enfield.—"I am delighted with your beautiful Corsets, and shall recommend them wherever I go."

Weston Park.—"Mrs. B. is delighted at obtaining in 'P. & S.' an ideal Corset—shape without pressure . . . . the most easy she has met with."

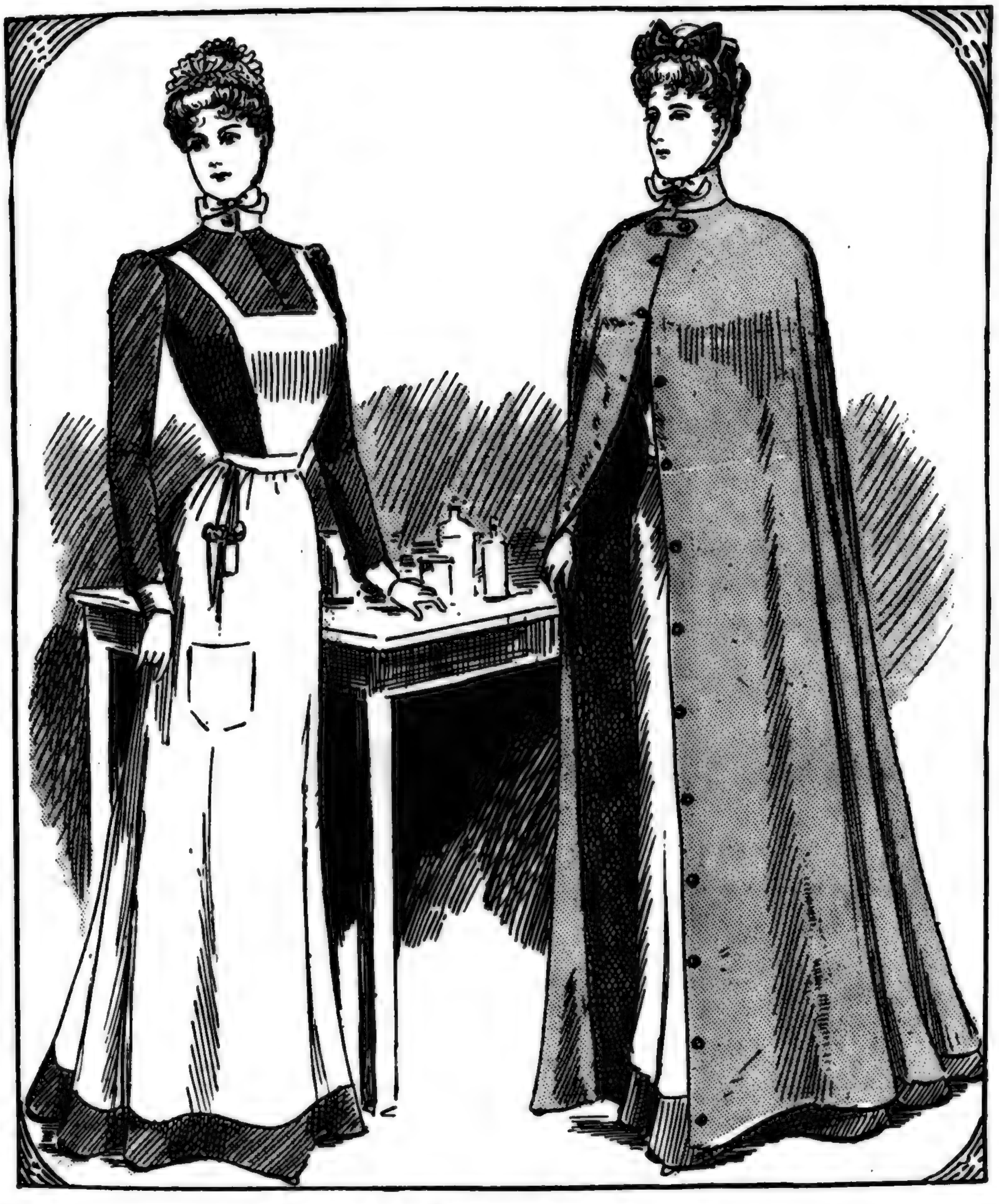
Obtainable from most leading Drapers and Outfitters. Booklet and Price List post free from the Manufacturers, W. PRETTY & SONS, Ld., IPSWICH.

Employments for Ladies.

LADIES AS DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

Truly "the whirligig of time" has "brought about its revenges." Mary Ann now works the noisy typewriter and serves as a "young lady" behind the counter, while her erstwhile mistress busies herself with the pots and pans, which the said Mary Ann now so heartily despises.

The lady who is a lady knows that no work, if it be but honest and respectable, is to be despised, while the inferior imitation article has a horror of soiling her hands and a passion for her "liberty" and her "earnings." Well, well, we must face facts as such, and domestic service being a sadly understocked profession those in dire need have seized upon as, at any rate, a safeguard from starvation. Not everyone, however, has either the physical strength or the power of self-abnegation necessary to make a really good servant, when such domestic is drawn from the class of those whom she serves. Some women can never take a real interest in domestic affairs, not even in those of their own home, and for such "service" is out of the question. But there is a large class who are glad and willing to do work requiring no great mental strain, and to whom long hours of standing, excessive brain effort, and the general "fag" of work requiring strength in both mind and body would be an impossibility. For, to look the matter frankly in the face, to be a domestic is nothing like so difficult or so arduous a life as to be a Board School teacher or a newspaper reporter.



Nos. 356 and 357. A Nurse's Outfit.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirt, Bodice or Apron, each 6½d.; Cloak, 1s. 0½d., of Madame Myra, *95, Regent Street, W.*

It is utterly useless, though, to go to a house as the only lady servant amongst a number of those of the lower classes. Such an action can but result in failure for both employer and employed.

Personally I think it futile for any lady to undertake the heaviest work of a house, such as window-cleaning, coal carrying, and rough scrubbing. The average "general" can beat her easily at that kind of work; where the lady domestic has the advantage is in her intimate knowledge of what to her employer are the necessities of existence, for instance, spotless tablecloths, bright polished glass and silver, a well-laid table, no inquisitive curiosity as to her letters and possessions, and in a word a general sense of the "fitness of things." Perhaps in a hard day's labour she may fail grievously compared with the lusty-armed Mary Ann, but for attention to those details which go so far to make up the sum of human daily existence in pleasant fashion she will shine by contrast.

The life may be narrow, the outlook persistently grey, but there will be a sense of security and of greater ease, a firm surety of the possession of food, raiment, and a roof, which is not always apparent to the hard-worked clerk or governess.

Some time ago I came across a letter from a lady who acted as cook-housekeeper in an establishment where all the other domestics were of lowly birth.

Naturally she was a skilled cook, sufficiently skilled, indeed, to have a clever kitchenmaid. Her wages were £60 a year, and to her was allotted a bed-sitting room which she wisely furnished with as many of her home treasures as space permitted, and which to her was, indeed, an oasis in the wilderness.

Not that she grumbled in the least; she found herself "passing rich" with her £60 and no expenses; her kitchenmaid was a sensible, pleasant girl, and the men-servants treated her, as she them, with quiet civility.

Her mistress was a widow who lived the quietest of lives, so that she was not troubled with the incursions of various "gentlemen's gentlemen" and ladies' maids into the hall over which she reigned supreme. Dinner was early—about seven o'clock—and after all the courses had been served she invariably retired, to read or write, to her cosy room.

The one really heavy cross in her lot was her loneliness. Her position and duties cut her off from association with those who were by her birth and education fitted for her acquaintance, while those with whom she had intercourse in her daily work were the poles apart from her in every way. Wisely she found resources in herself, and her mind was to her a kingdom.

I quote this particular case at length as it proves how, even under distinctly disadvantageous circumstances, such work may prove neither degrading nor distasteful. One thing must be impressed upon the mind of her who would enter the ranks of domestic service, and that is, if she is to succeed at all, she must be infinitely cleverer at her work than the average maid. Her cooking must be high-class if a cook; if a parlour-maid she must understand every item of her duties, be a good carver, table decorator and arranger of flowers, a capital plate-cleaner, &c.; if a housemaid she should know how to pack a box and help put on a dinner-gown as well as "turn out" a bedroom, and so on *ad infinitum.*

I do not think there is much opening for the average housekeeper to a bachelor or widower.

There are too many "lone, lorn" individuals on the search for such posts; but those with a *real* knowledge of housekeeping, joined to the capacities of a first-class cook, are only too eagerly snapped up. The lady servant has undoubtedly come to stay; more and more frequent grow such advertisements as:—"Wanted, cook, housemaid, parlourmaid, all ladies. No knives, boots, steps, or windows. Caps and aprons. Separate bedrooms. Liberal wages." In parenthesis I might say that I can never see the objections to the livery of the maid servant. Her attire is clean, becoming, and sensible. What more can be desired?

Of the profession of children's nurses I have written—some two years ago—in these pages, and shall probably write again.

Now that the lady nurse is a recognised factor in our social system, no one, however foolish and prejudiced, thinks she loses caste thereby; and the barriers are being broken down—if they ever existed for sensible people—with regard to gentlewomen as servants. No honest work can ever do anything but strengthen the character of the work. With old George Herbert we must all feel

> Who sweeps a room as to Thy laws,
> Makes that and th' action fine.

In the next issue I hope to give details of the various schools of housekeeping where a thorough training in every branch of housework may be obtained. The maid, be it remembered, is not infrequently changed into the wife, and none rules so well as she who has learnt to obey, and whose knowledge of her kingdom has been gained by practice not theory.

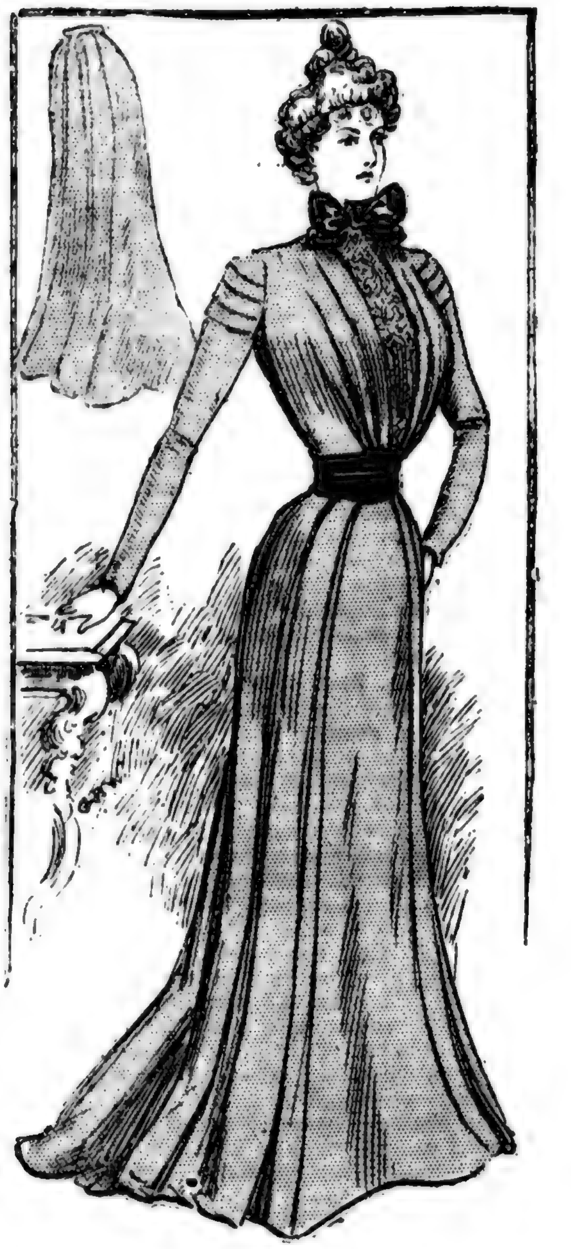
In a town house the nursery should be high up; but not under the roof, which is cold in winter and hot in summer. Plenty of air and a cheerful view are desirable, and in a day-nursery I should recommend very little furniture and plenty of room for toys and games. Bright-coloured pictures on the walls always make a room look cheerful. The ideal nursery should be the brightest and most pleasant place in the house.

Novelties in Dressmaking.

A NEW PLEATED SKIRT.

THE fancifully-pleated skirts are not yet in their heyday; for the present they are what is usually called "exclusive"—that is, made by the more expensive West End dressmakers for a wealthy *clientèle*. Still, they are not beyond the scope of the average dressmaker or of the home worker, who is furnished with a good pattern and explanatory hints. As I am most anxious to dress my readers as elegantly as is possible with decided economy, I am dealing to-day with a style which is exclusive only because for the present it is known merely to the few.

It is astonishing what a variety these pleated skirts can show. They are mostly made in one of the new delicate cloths, with satin surface. The pleated skirts nearly all have the pleats stitched together, or held by tapes from the waist to the knees, because a neat hip-fit is still a necessity. Below, the material is free, simply hemmed at the edge. Such a skirt must not be lined. It is mounted on a five-gore foundation skirt of silk or lining, the lower part of which is a shaped flounce (pattern in one piece, half the flounce) covered with the skirt material. This flounce improves the "flow" of the free pleats.



No. 358. A New Pleated Skirt

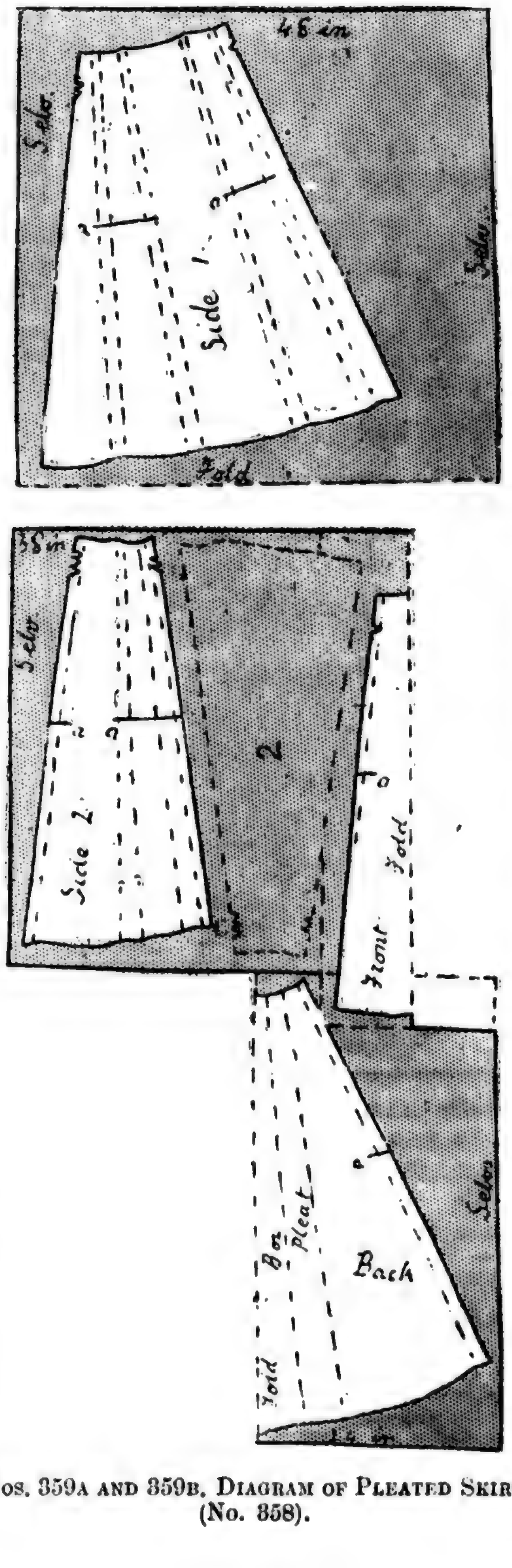
For Description see this Page.

Prices of Paper Patterns, Pleated Skirt, 1s. 0½d.; *Foundation Skirt or Bodice, each* 6½d., *post free, of* Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

The lovely skirt illustrated on this page is of Uhlan blue cashmere. It has a plain tablier, a "Watteau" box-pleat back, and on each side shows eight ironed-down pleats, arranged in four groups of two each; these grouped pleats, which diminish almost to nothing at the waist, turn all towards the tablier.

The skirt is in six breadths or gores—a back in one piece, a small tablier, and two sides on each side. The seams (made according to the notches on the pattern) are carefully arranged to be inside or beneath the groups of pleats. They do not show at all.

The diagram, No. 359B, shows the back (half), front (half), and one side piece of the pattern laid on three yards of 48-inch material. The lower part of the material is folded in half at the dotted line so that the selvedges meet; the back (the centre edge of the pattern laid on the folds) is thus cut in a single piece. The upper part of the material has the edge folded over for ten inches at the dotted line, so that the front (front centre laid along the fold) is cut in a single piece. Alongside of the tablier is the side pattern No. 2, with its duplicate (No. 2) marked out in dotted lines beside it. If the material has no "up and down" the duplicate breadth can be reversed as shown. If face cloth be used, however, the second breadth cannot be reversed. In this case another half yard of material must be allowed. No. 359A shows the side breadth No. 1 laid on 2½ yards of the material, which is doubled at dotted line from selvedge to selvedge, so that the breadth is cut in duplicate. Hence the skirt takes 5½ yards of double-width material. This sounds a great deal, but there is enough "waste" to cut a bodice with an extra yard allowed, and such a smart skirt as this should have a bodice of the same material.



Nos. 359A and 359B. Diagram of Pleated Skirt (No. 358).

The dotted lines on the diagram show where the pleats come. The box-pleat at the back is free. The four groups of pleats on each side, two to each group, each pleat turned to the front, is secured as far as the line A. The pleats can be stitched down thus far like tucks; or they can be secured at the back by means of tapes. The pleat should be tacked in place after the skirt is seamed and hemmed; they should be ironed down; and then the tapes arranged at the back, secured to the back edge of each small pleat.

The foundation skirt must be made quite apart, joining the pleated only at the waist, pocket and opening (these last being made in the back box-pleat). The skirt, as illustrated, has a slight train, but it can be shorn off just to clear the ground.

The bodice illustrated is a very good model to accompany this charming skirt. It has a stretched back and two pleated fronts, arranged on a fitted and boned lining, the front of which is cut in three pieces, the centre panel (covered with lace over silk) fastening on the left. The collar, bow, and draped Swiss belt, are of turquoise blue panne. The sleeve is decorated with bias bands.

Juliette Heale.

◆

Palmistry.

(Some delineations crowded out of page 31.)

Turk (Ledbury).—Your future prospects are good as far as I can tell from bad impressions, and I can see one long voyage for you in the distance. You are more easily influenced by men than women, but have strong opinions of your own. You are careful about little things rather than big.

B.E.L. (South Shields).—You will marry, but not just yet. There is some luck coming to you in the future, and you will have two children.

Clare (Lincolnshire).—You have asked no questions. You have much prosperity coming to you, through marriage. There are great changes in your life about thirty-five, forty-four, and fifty. You have had an unfortunate love affair.

Mignonette (Bathgate).—There is a man in your life at present who takes a great interest in you, but I cannot tell how the affair ends, as you have only sent me the impressions of one hand. There is a change coming to you within the next year.

Dewar (St. Helens).—There is a great change for you before forty, and some travelling. You must be careful about your affairs, and not spoil your prospects by your own doing.

McQueen (Montgreenan).—There is an influence in your life at the present time, but I think you like him better than he likes you. There is a change before forty-three, and another a year later. You have had a great escape from danger in the past. I see no sign of a permanent residence abroad.

Bebe (Perth).—You will certainly get married, but whether to the man you know now I cannot tell, as there is a blotch in your hand just at that part. Your prospects improve after marriage, and later on you will be a rich woman.

Sister (Luton).—There is a change for the better coming before thirty-five, which will mean more money for you. There is a strong influence in your life at the present time. You are admirably suited to your vocation. Do not meet your troubles half way.

Olicana (Stanstead).—I am sorry I cannot answer your questions, but the impressions are too bad. You have much determination, and a desire to do thoroughly anything you enter into. You like the society of the opposite sex.

Amicus (London).—One of your hands is very good, but the other hopeless; there is a strong influence in your life at the present time, and there is a change at thirty-one and thirty five. You will be a widow before forty-eight. Your marriage will be a happy one.

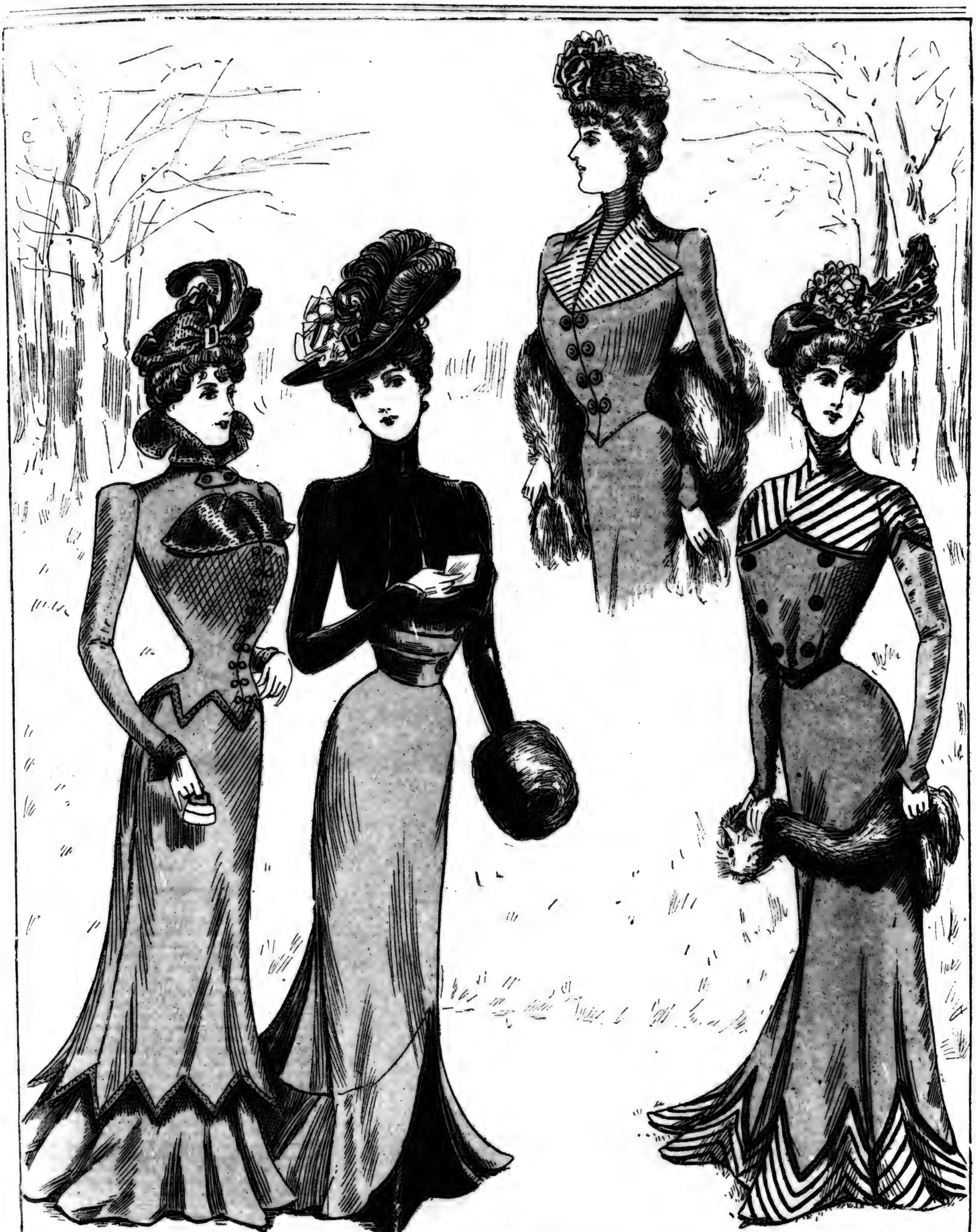
Myrtle.—You should get on well in business. You will marry, but as far as I can see from a blotted impression, it is not the man you like now; however, your marriage will be one of great mutual affection.

A. J. C. J. (Kettering).—There is great likelihood of your being well off. Your good fortune will come to you through marriage. You have a diversity of talent and much originality.

Ivy Leaves.—Your impressions are too smudged for me to give the date of your marriage, or to answer your other questions. You will have four children.

(Several delineations are crowded out.)

SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA—The Queen of Cocoas.
SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA—The Queen of Cocoas.
SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA—The Queen of Cocoas.



Nos. 360 TO 363. EARLY SPRING TAILOR GOWNS.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36. Price of Paper Patterns, Skirts, Tunic, or Bodices, each 6½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Hints on Economical Dress.

THE RENOVATION OF EVENING GOWNS.

THE annoying part of evening gowns is that they soil and yet do not wear out. A white satin gown can only be worn a few times, and it has to be discarded when the texture of the satin is as good as new. Of course cleaning can be resorted to, and an art-cleaner like Mr. Achille Serre, (263, Oxford Street) can clean delicate draperies and embroideries equal to new without the gown they adorn being unpicked. But by the time a gown wants cleaning all one's many acquaintances have seen it, and a little alteration in its composition has become a necessity.

Evening gowns are easy to renovate successfully because the staple of all is a skirt and bodice—a complete gown, in fact--of satin or silk. It is so very easy to strip off the soiled decorations and provide a veil, or veil it anew with some pretty transparent material. A renovated evening gown cannot be easily identified.

The dainty Empire gown, illustrated at No. 365, is a renovation. Two types of dresses can be renovated in this way. The foundation of the transparent gown can be a soiled satin Empire dress or an ordinary skirt and bodice of white or some pale hued satin.

Any pretty transparent material can be used—a cheap striped gauze, printed silk muslin, sequin net, &c. The skirt is cut in seven breadths, the seams of which should be very small and well made. The edge is simply hemmed. This gown (it takes twelve yards of 27-inch material) is mounted on the fitted bodice, beneath an Empire corselet of thick guipure, which can be threaded with black chiffon or satin ribbon.

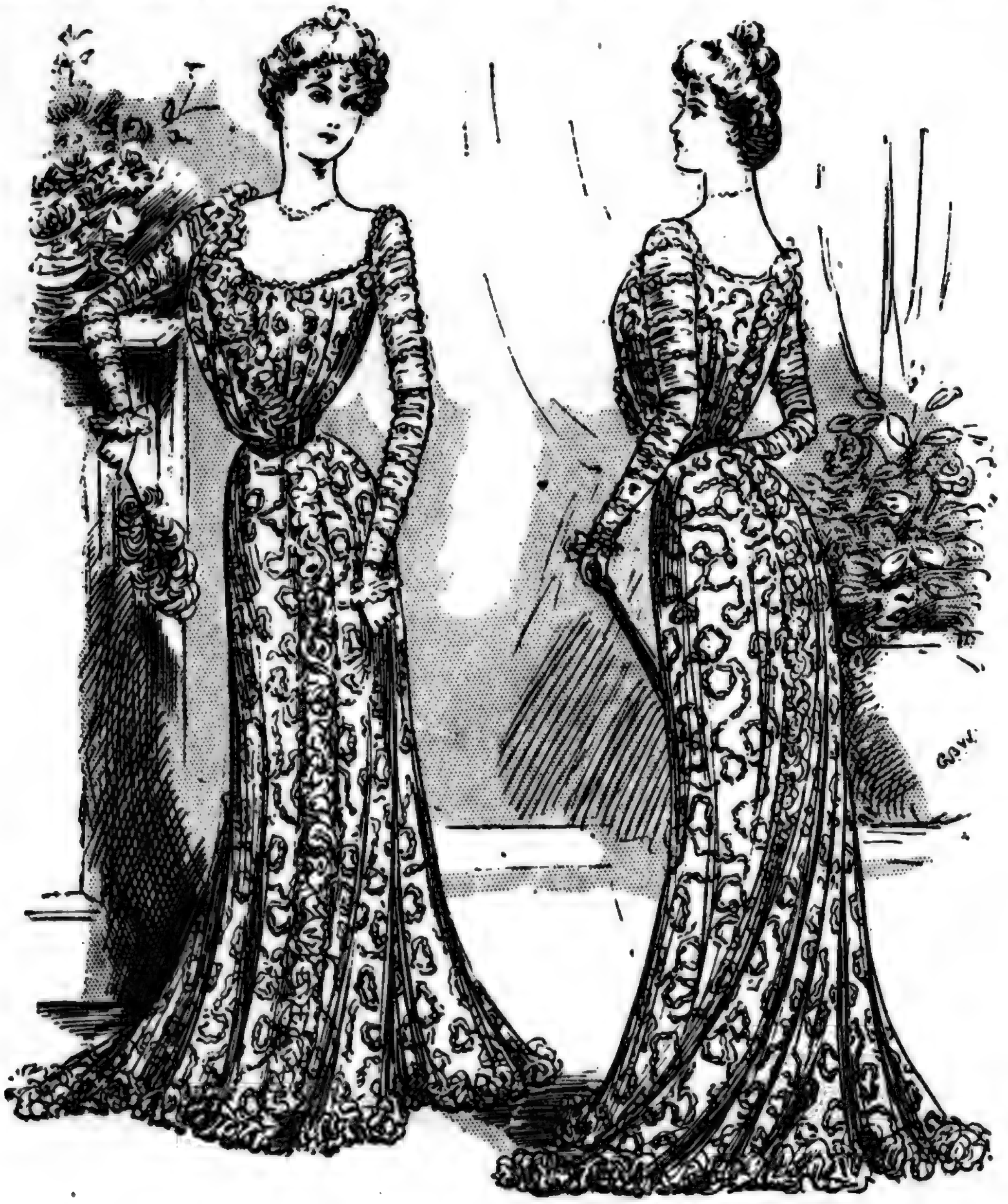
Strands of white, coloured, or black chiffon are being threaded in lace in place of the black velvet ribbon threadings so much in evidence upon the lace gowns of last summer. The narrow chiffon, in ribbon widths, with an edge on either side, is the best kind for the purpose. A four-inch width is suitable. Care must be taken in selecting a lace of an accommodating design, which will admit of the chiffon being passed through in various patterns. Guipure sleeves are particularly pretty and effective treated in this way. A trellis pattern on a wide guipure insertion is very effective. The chiffon can be threaded through some guipures and pulled out at intervals to resemble roses, the centres of which are sometimes formed by an embroidery of chenille.

This gown had no sleeves or shoulder straps. Straps of black velvet ribbon are introduced, and a long, unlined sleeve of the skirt material. The same ribbon forms the rosette for the bodice, from which hangs a width of black chiffon draped with satin ribbon, matching the foundation.

No. 364 shows the back and front views of a white satin dress, which has been covered with the utmost simplicity with white sequin net. The net skirt, cut to the satin shape, is seamed apart, but is held to the foundation by the chiffon or net ruche, which edges the skirt and rises back and front to the waist. The net on the bodice is fuller; but it is trimmed with the same ruche, which goes over the right shoulder. The unlined net sleeves are trimmed with narrow ruches. Thirteen yards of 27-inch net will renovate this dress.

Cheap piece lace can be utilised, or the still cheaper fancy gauzes. Black transparent material looks well over white, and it is preferable if the white satin has seen much service and is discernably soiled.

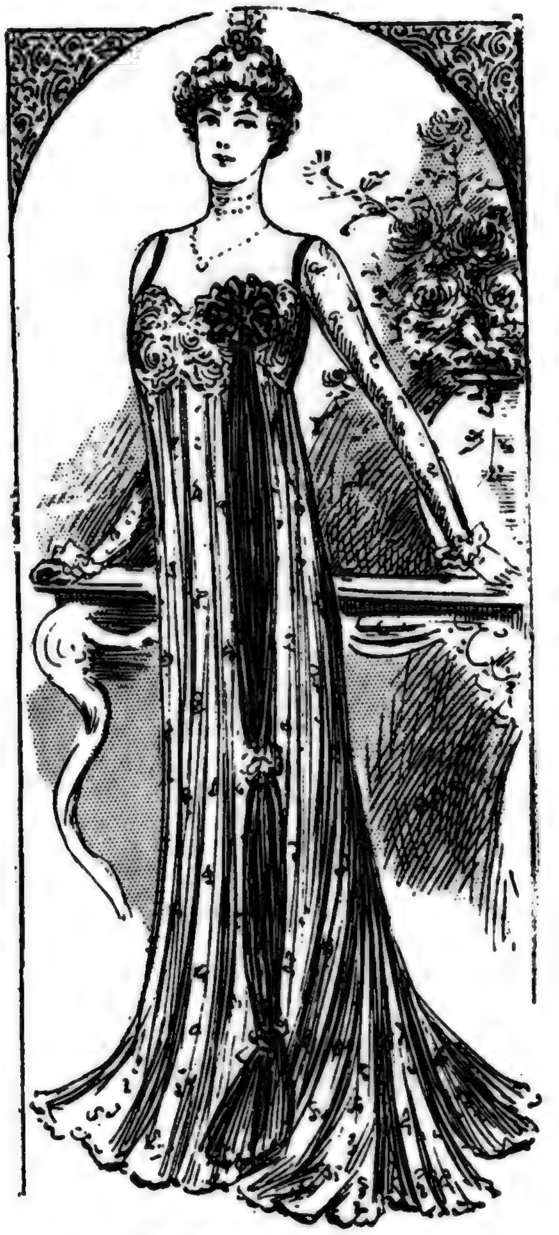
J. H.



No. 364. Evening Gown of Embroidered Net.

For Description see this Page.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirt or Bodice, each 6½d.; Empire Gown, 1s. 0½d. *post free of* Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

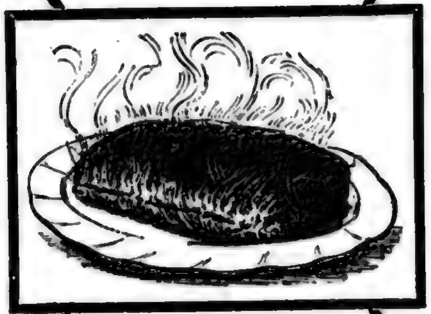


No. 365. An Empire Evening Gown.

For Description see this page.

Visitors to the beautiful Lake Como may know of the quiet little place, Tremezzo, but its fame is not widely spread. If it were it would lose much of its charm, for its attraction is its natural beauty, the walks on the mountains, and sailings on the lake, but of the fashionable amusements it can boast none. It is one of three resorts all clustered together on the west bank of Como, Menaggio, Cadenabbia, and Tremezzo. Of these the most frequented by English visitors is Cadenabbia, of which Tremezzo is practically a continuation. Tremezzo is a small fishing village backed by mountains, at the foot of whose steep ascents lies the lovely Lake of Como with its blue and green waters. Along the banks are arcades, sheltered from rain, where visitors can walk, and at each end of the arcades there are magnificent views of the lake and opposite shore. The Tremezzo shore, the Tremezzina, has been called the Eden of Como and the Garden of Lombardy, and is, as this wealth of names implies, extremely beautiful. Close by is the beautiful Villa Carlotta, belonging to the ducal family of Saxe-Meiningen, with lovely gardens (open at a fee of 50 cents. to each attendant), and the works of art, including masterpieces of Thorwaldsen and Canova. There is an interesting excursion to Santa Maria del Soccorso (1,375ft), a pilgrimage church. There is the loftier ascent of Monte Crocione (5,600ft) from Cadenabbia, which is stiff enough to interest the more vigorous. Hotels: the Hotel Pension Bazzoni, 8½f. a day; Hotel du Lac et Villa Carlotta, pension 5f. to 6f.; and Hotel Pension Belvedere, pension from 6f.

Shredded Wheat Biscuit



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7d.

Per Large Packet.

Contains all nutrients required by the system. Cures indigestion by natural means.

KEPT BY ALL UP-TO-DATE GROCERS.

Write for Booklet, "Vital Questions."

SHREDDED WHEAT CO., 6 & 8, Eastcheap, London, E.C.

Ask Your Neighbour

whose house is conspicuously clean, whose work worries her least, whose leisure time is greatest. How she manages. She will say- "I do all my cleaning with:-

TRADE MARK
"COMPO"
REGISTERED
THE SAFE WASHER

WASHES EVERYTHING

To be had from all Grocers, Stores, &c.

MANUFACTORY DUKINFIELD, MANCHESTER

DOLLY SPECIALITIES.

"Dolly" Cream and Tints.

"Dolly" Cream Colour, for Tinting Curtains, Muslins, Laces, Silks, Blouses, &c., a rich Cream Shade.

"Dolly" Tints manufactured in nine shades—Pink, Terra-Cotta, Old Gold, Heliotrope, Pea Green, Canary Yellow, Red, Blue, and Cream—for Tinting Faded Ribbons, Lace. Sold everywhere, 1d. bag. Will wash out when required.

"Dolly" Fast Dyes.

The "Dolly" Dyes are fast on Wool and Cotton alike, and will not wash out or fade. "Dolly" Dyes are not Tints, but are solid Colours, viz.: Black, Brown, Blue, Green, Red, and Marone. Price 3d. each Dye. "Dolly" Dyes for Home Dyeing are sold by all Grocers and Oilmen.

WILLIAM EDGE AND SONS LTD.
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You will find – FRESH DELIGHT – in every piece of

KOHLER'S SWISS

LAUSANNE SUISSE

CHOCLAIT.

A DELICIOUS COMBINATION OF MILK AND CHOCOLATE IN TABLET FORM.

JAMES PASCALL, LTD LONDON – Wholesale agent.

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LEICESTER PURE WOOL & MERINO UNDERCLOTHING AND HOSIERY

Absolutely Unshrinkable.

GUARANTEED BRITISH MAKE

Gentlemen's Vests, Pants, Sweaters, &c. Ladies' Vests, Bodices, Combinations, Night-dresses, Divided Skirts, &c.

Also Perfect-fitting Corsets specially made to Customers, Own measurements, from 7/6 per pair.

Regd. Trade Mark.

SPECIAL PARCELS of MERINO UNDERWEAR for LADIES and GENTS

2 Gents' Merino Vests, Short Sleeves.
2 Gents' Merino Pants.
3 Pairs Gents' Ribbed Wool Half Hose—sizes: slender, men's, outsizes.
Long Sleeves, 6d. extra.

15/- EACH.

2 Ladies' Merino Vests, Short Sleeves.
1 Ladies' Knitted Wool Petticoat.
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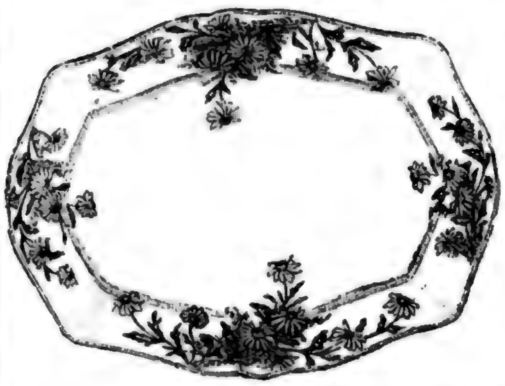

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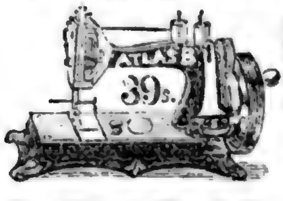

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ONE POOR LITTLE GIRL.

"I was afraid that if I took to my bed it would go hard with me."

Now, the writer of this article wants the printer to set the above sentence in italics, so it will be plain and prominent. Then he wants you, the reader—whether you are man or woman, old or young, ill or well—to read it at least three times over, and see what you make of it. Is it rather deep and suggestive? or is it commonplace and practically of no importance? For my part I think it rather deep and suggestive. Let's have a look at the facts.

Mrs. Mary Thomson was, when a girl, always weakly and lacking in stamina. She was one of the millions of children who get a bad start. Her inheritance from her parents or other progenitors was hardly worth having. What, for want of a better phrase, we call her "stock of vitality," was so insignificant she could have carried it in the hollow of her thin little hand. She was not able to play like other children. The spirits and muscles were not there. No romping or shouting for this frail bit of humanity. She could only look on as cripples do.

"I was," she writes, "always troubled with a weak stomach, which became more noticeable and worrying to me as I grew older. I had to be careful what I ate; and so many things disagreed with me that I failed to get nourishment enough to make me strong for life's duties and battles.

"After I got married and had a young family my health seemed to give way entirely. The labour and responsibility were more than I could bear. The more I needed food the greater appeared to be my aversion to it and the less my power to digest it. After eating even light meals I would have cruel pain in my chest and left side, and a cold feeling in the stomach, as if there were no blood in that part of my body. Often I sat at the table while the others were eating without touching a morsel myself. In addition to this I suffered much of the time from a sensation of bearing down or sinking; which was even more frightful to my *mind* than it was distressing physically.

"You will see that I must have got weaker and weaker in such a life as this. At length it was all I could do to drag myself from one room to another; and, in truth, I was better fitted for bed than for being up and about the house at all.

"Only the healthy and the strong sleep well. I was too feeble and nervous to give myself up to unconsciousness; and frequently, from pain alone, I heard the clock tick and strike from bed-time till morning—a most dreadful and exhaustive way of spending the night.

"Yet I struggled with all my might to keep about, for *I was afraid that if I took to my bed it would go hard with me.*"

Here is that sentence to which the reader's attention has already been called. What does Mrs. Thomson mean by it? Does she mean that she was afraid that rest in bed—the rest which in *itself* she so much required—would harm her? No; she means that her only hope lay *in refusing to recognise or admit to herself the extent of her illness.* Do you comprehend that? No? Then you are a person who has never been ill, or you were born *minus* an imagination. Some of us, anyway, know the temporary power that may be drawn from sheer grit—from declining to admit that one is beaten. Think it out for yourself. It is a profound idea. It furnishes the stuff that martyrs and heroes are made of.

"Year after year," continued the lady, "I went on thus. For a few days I would be easier—then bad as ever. I consulted doctor after doctor, including a very clever physician at Hull. They all said I was suffering from debility, and had no constitution to work on. They may have been right, and it is certain none of their medicines helped me.

"One day in the autumn of 1882 a gentleman living at Cottringham called on me, and seeing how ill I was asked about my complaint. When I had given him the history of it he said I was afflicted with chronic indigestion, resulting in insufficient blood, and that blood impure and full of poisonous humours. He added, 'Miss Thomson, I know of but one remedy that may do you good—Mother Seigel's Syrup. I know many who have been cured by it of exactly the disease that crushes you down.'

"My son got a bottle at Hull, and I began taking it. In a few weeks I was greatly better. I could eat with a relish, and get about the house with ease. I kept on with the Syrup and grew stronger and stronger, and in a short time afterwards I was in good health, for, as you may say, the first time in my life. I shall be glad to answer inquiries."—Mary Thomson, Station Road, Keyingham, Yorkshire, December 2, 1898.

Although Mrs. Thomson's statement is obviously sincere and convincing, there is no harm to mention that the facts are known to Mr. Charlton, Chemist, Keyingham, and testified to by him

Lessons in Millinery.

TUCKED silk hats and bonnets are more worn than ever. The tucks are larger and rather wider apart than hitherto, and they are stitched more firmly down. It is not a particularly easy thing to make these tucked hats. They require great skill and care, and the amateur milliner, unless she has learned for some little time the "art of manipulation" of fragile fabrics, had better leave it alone altogether: but for those who can do difficult work successfully I will explain the best way to proceed.

We will specially take Fig. 1 to copy. This could be a real old lady's bonnet if made sufficiently large; but the pattern given is not by any means so large, as it is intended for a young matron. It can easily be enlarged by adding half an inch each side and half an inch in the front. The back would not need any enlarging as it is quite wide enough to fit over the hair, and, should any addition be needed for quite an old lady, a silk curtain, similar to those that were dear to our grandmothers, can be added at the back.

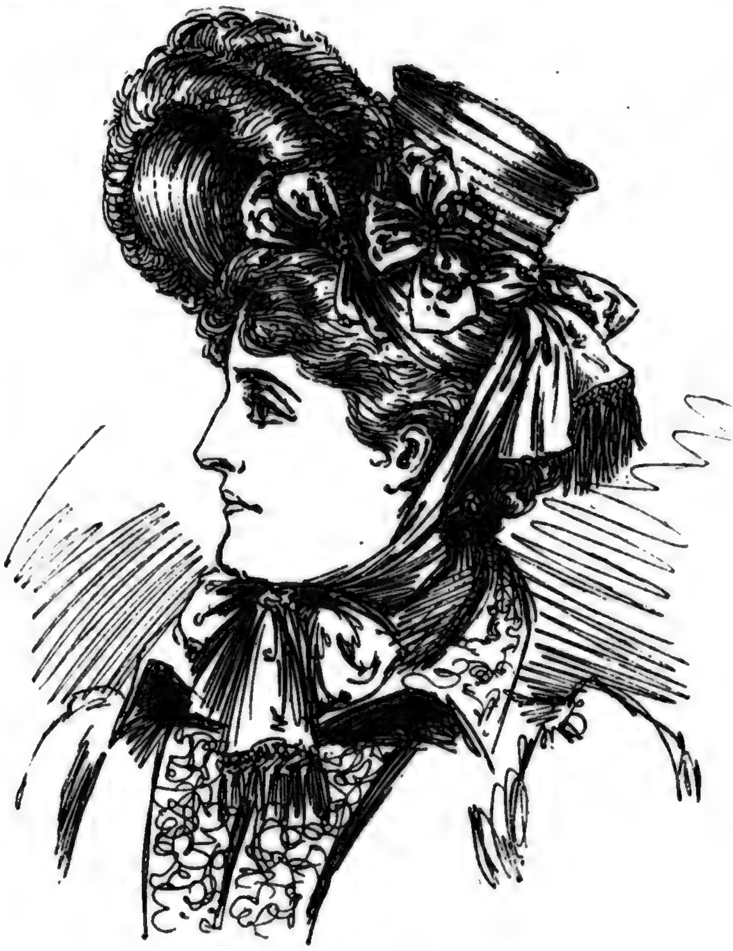


FIG. 1.

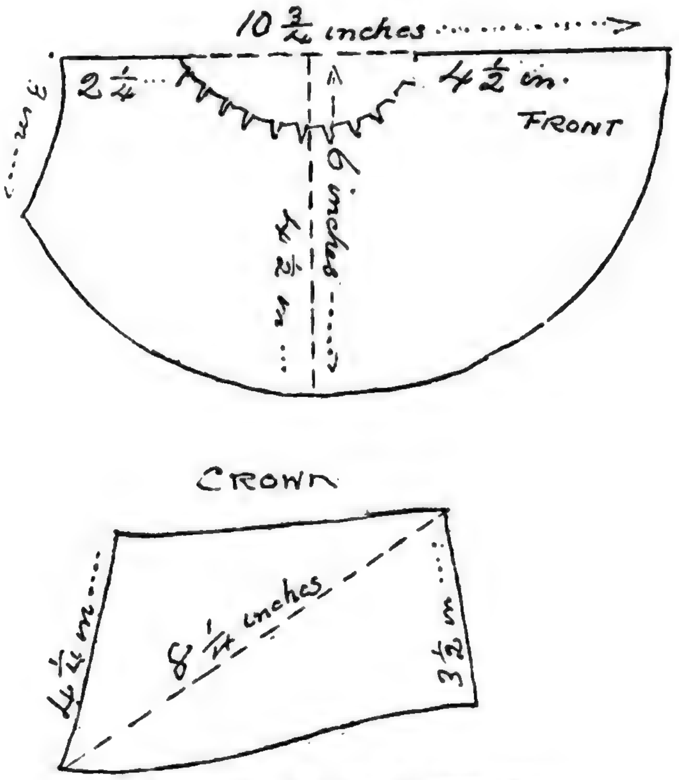


FIG. 2. DIAGRAM OF BONNET (FIG. 1).

First, then, having cut out the pattern according to the shape and measurements of the diagram (fig. 2) you must proceed to cut out the material. I am not able to give you this month a diagram of the shape of the tucked material, owing to want of space, but I think my clever pupils will be able to cut from my directions, and I prefer that the others should not attempt it.

Take for this model a piece of silk or "peau de soie" of the very best quality (a very good glacé is pretty for it), a broad piece of 1 yard on the cross. On this put your pattern without the back-piece, and so that the ends meet the crossway part of the silk. Cut your silk 6in wider than the sparetrie. If your silk is not wide enough to allow you to do this without a join you must make a neat join underneath, and it will not be seen. You then proceed to tuck this silk in six tucks, the third of an inch wide. It will be better to mark them out first, as they must be very even; when this is done stretch the tucked silk tightly over the brim, putting in a plain piece at the back, where there is no need for tucking. Make a similar piece of tucked crossway silk to go round the crown, and join and cover this in the usual way, taking the round for the top of the crown from the verge of the wall of the crown when joined, of which I am giving you a diagram. The top of the crown is covered quite plainly, so there is no difficulty about it. The covering to the wall of the crown turns in under the top tuck. The under part of the brim is merely stitched regularly about an inch apart, to look as if the tucks were stitched through; but do not stitch the under brim through the sparetrie, as it does not set so well. The headpiece can be made smaller or larger according to the size of hole cut out in the brim; if the model one is too small, cut the hole for crown a quarter of an inch all round. Even this will make a great difference. When cutting out the crown piece it is a good plan to cut first of all a very much smaller hole than you really need, and then snip it up to try exactly how large you need it. When the right size is arrived at, cut the pieces off to within about three-quarters of an inch of the opening, turning up these little turreted pieces to fix the crown to. Do not attempt to bend the bonnet into shape until crown and all are finished, then carefully curve the brim down on either side. In covering the sparetrie shape for bonnet or hat, care must be taken to give a little of the requisite curve of the brim up or down by drawing the outer or under covering a little tighter. In this model the lining must be stretched very tightly at the sides, allowing the requisite spring for the front. The only trimming on the outside of this bonnet consists of a fringed-out scarf of silk and one long feather. Underneath a band is put, on where a bow of the same silk as the outside scarf is placed, on the left side. This band must be put in directly the shape is covered, and before the head lining, which should neaten the ends. The band only requires fastening to the bonnet at each side. It is better left loose in front as it then fits on to the head more securely. The strings are also formed of fringed-out silk.

No. 3 is a little toque, made on any of the models for toques given in former lessons. The velvet with which it is draped and covered is lined with a thin leno, the ruche at the side is double, and the only trimming required is one large wing and a dull gold buckle. Of course, the under shape is bound with velvet, to rest on the hair; a double piece of velvet, cut on the cross, about three inches wide, should be used, and the folds of velvet and ruche meet this. All toques just now come down in front. Many of the French ones stick out two or three inches, and come very low on the forehead, but this is not very becoming to English women.

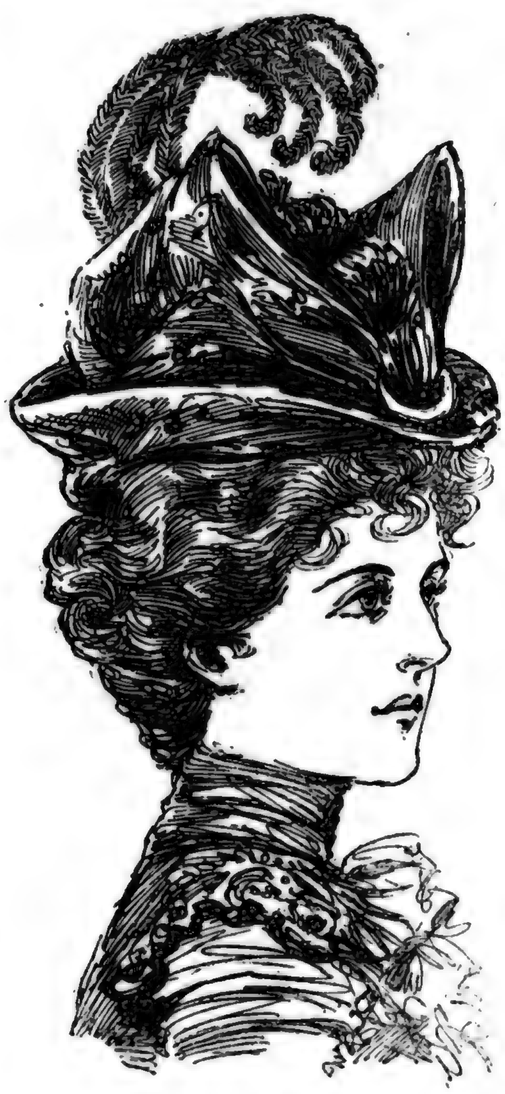
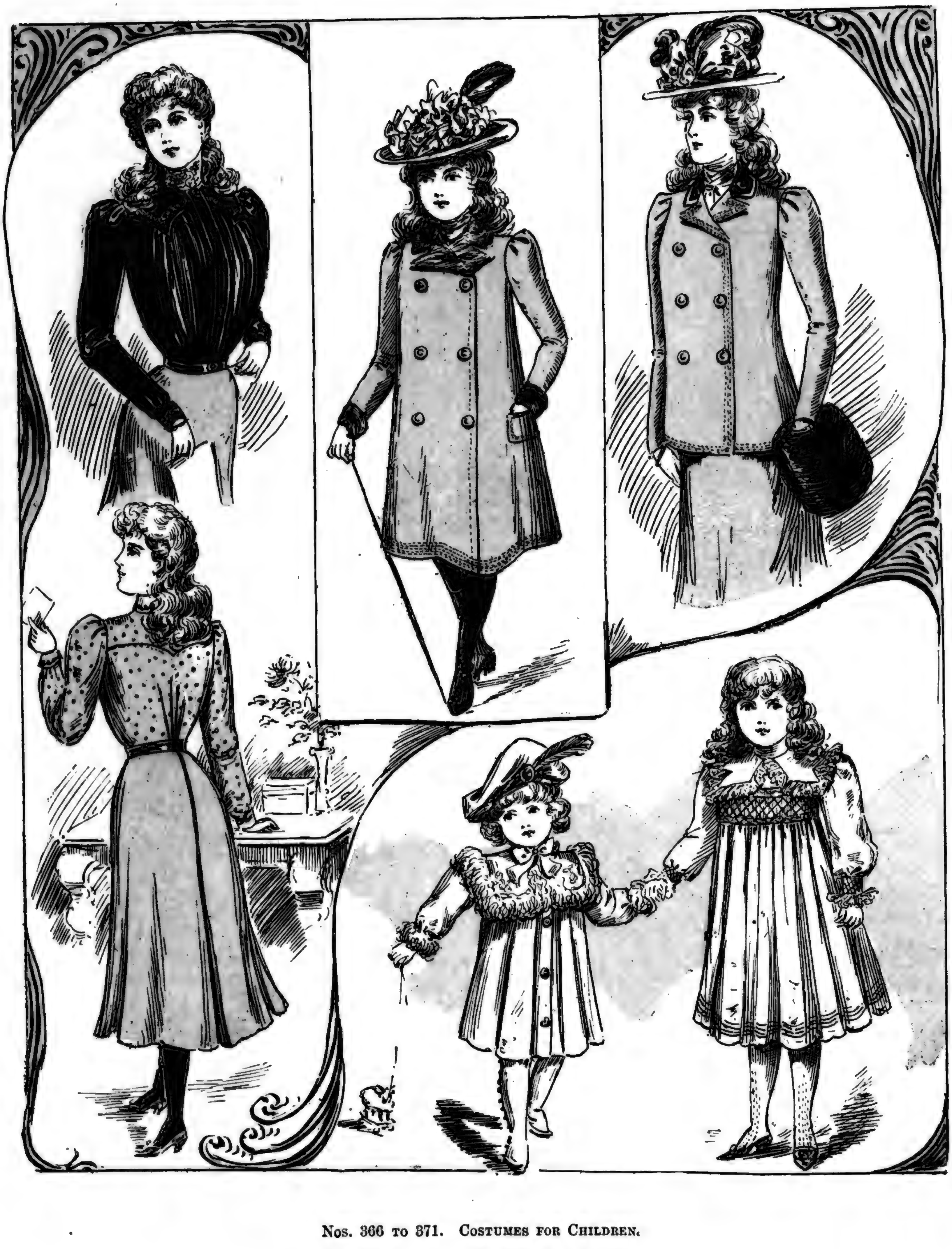


FIG. 3.

Veils are again a vexed question. To those whose hair is neat and tidy, being without a veil is distinctly an advantage; but few of us can boast of this. So, in spite of the doctors, who tell us our sight is materially injured by their use, I must still recommend veils. They hide a multitude of defects, and keep one in some sort of order certainly. But the putting-on of a veil is what we have still to learn. Some people have their veils gathered up in front. This has an aggravating habit of coming undone or of forming pleats over the nose, which, at a short distance, look like streaks of black if the veil happens to be of that colour. I will divulge a patent method of my own to you. It is to frill up the veil on to a long black-headed or ornamental pin, and push that through the front of the hat, letting it stick out as far as to keep the veil from pressing on the nose. I find one can then regulate the amount of fulness required for different sorts of hats most successfully.



Nos. 366 to 371. Costumes for Children.

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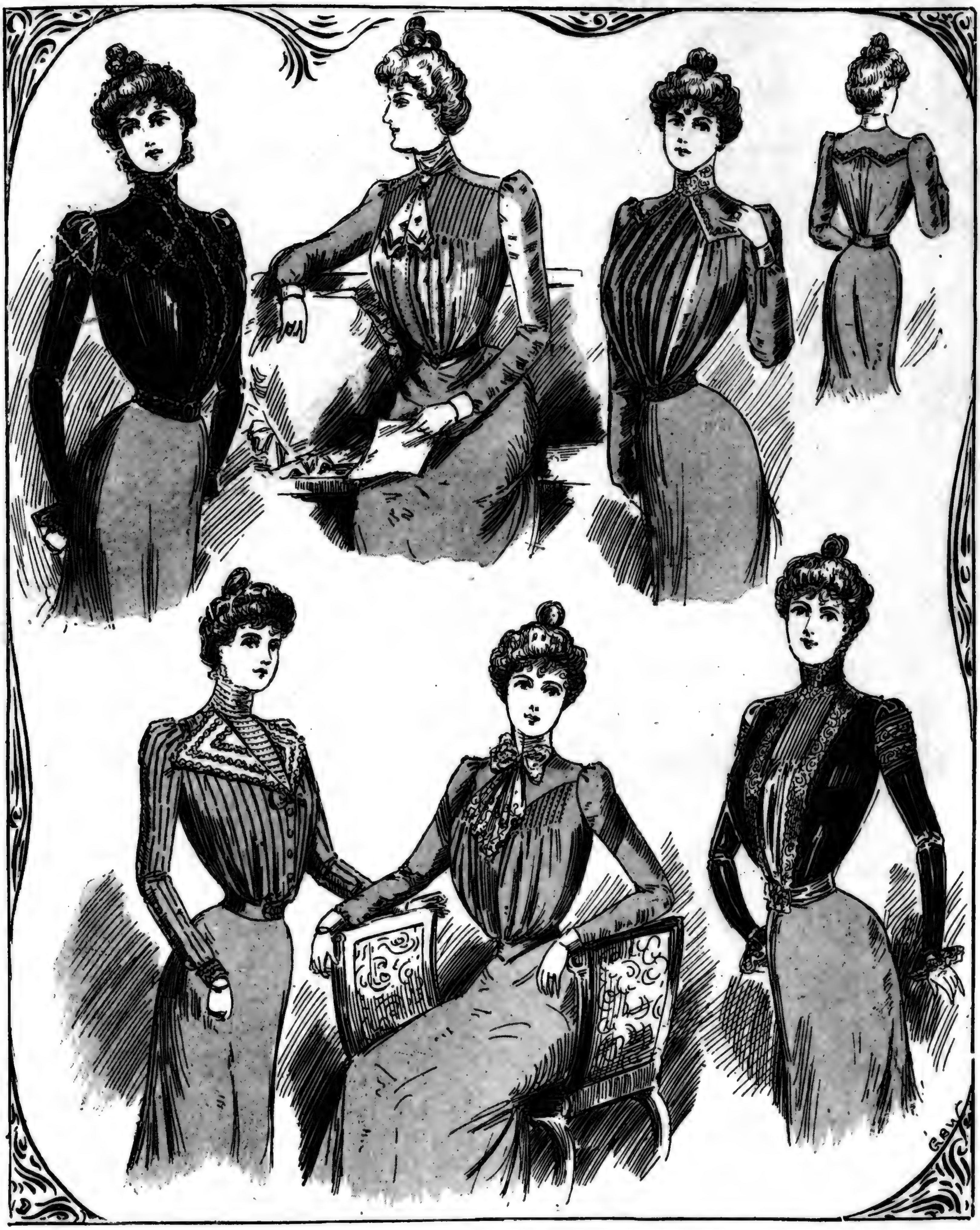

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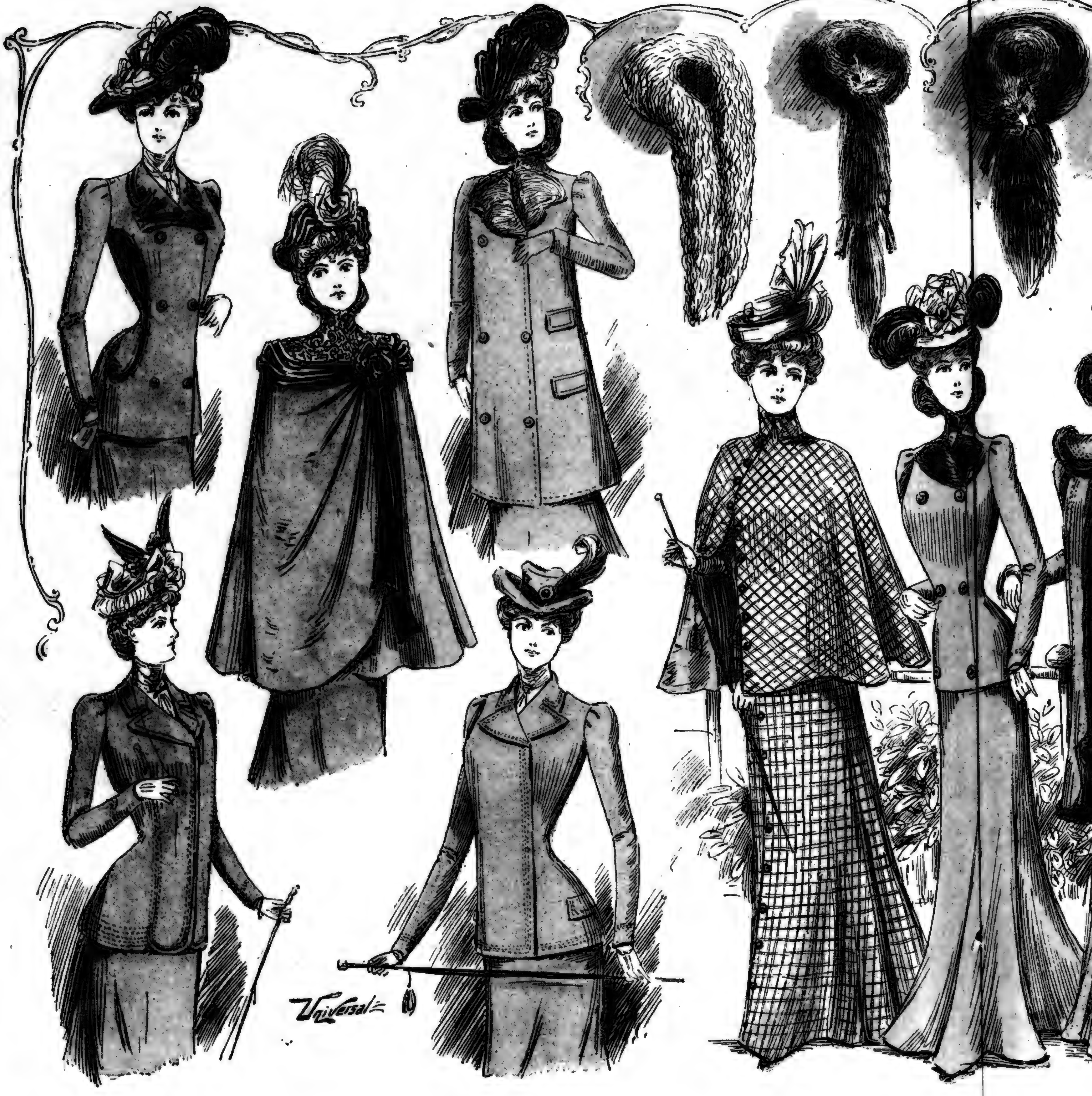
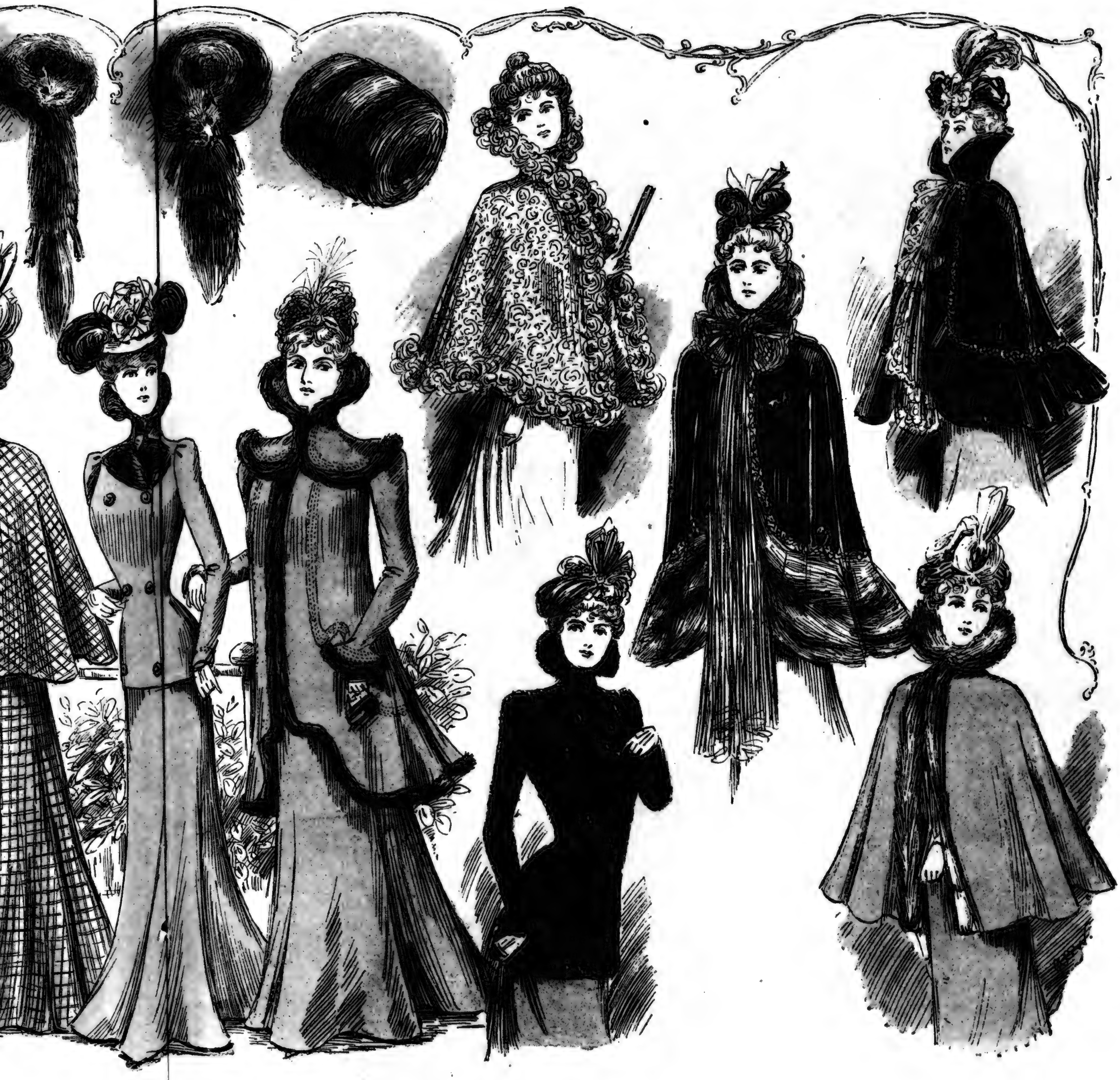


NOS. 378 TO 394. CAPES, FURS, AND COATS, FOR ALL

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 3

Price of Paper Patterns, Short Coats and Capes, each 6½d.: Long Wraps, each 1s. 0½d



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For Descriptions see Pages 32 *to* 36.

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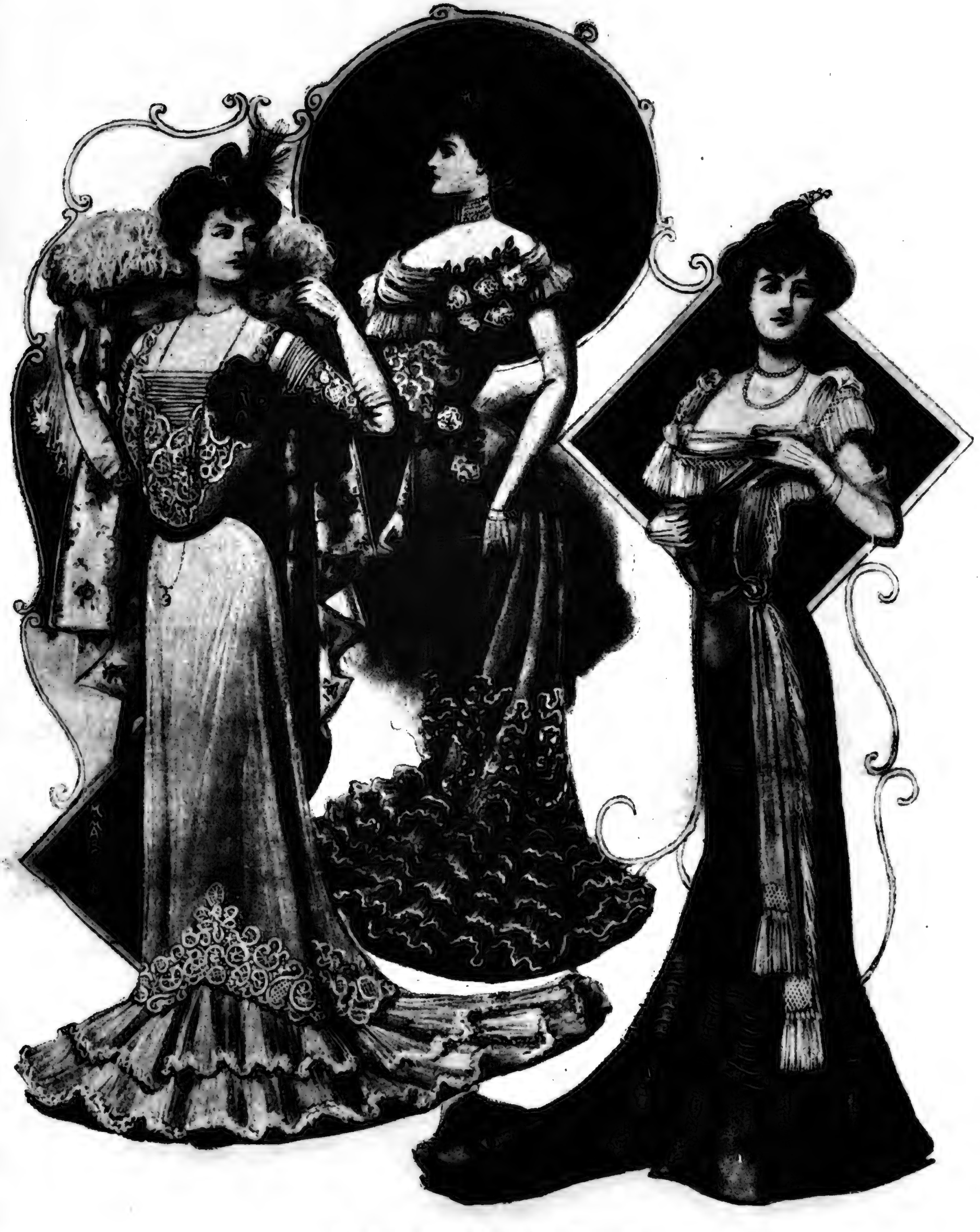

Nos. 395 to 397. Three Ball Dresses.

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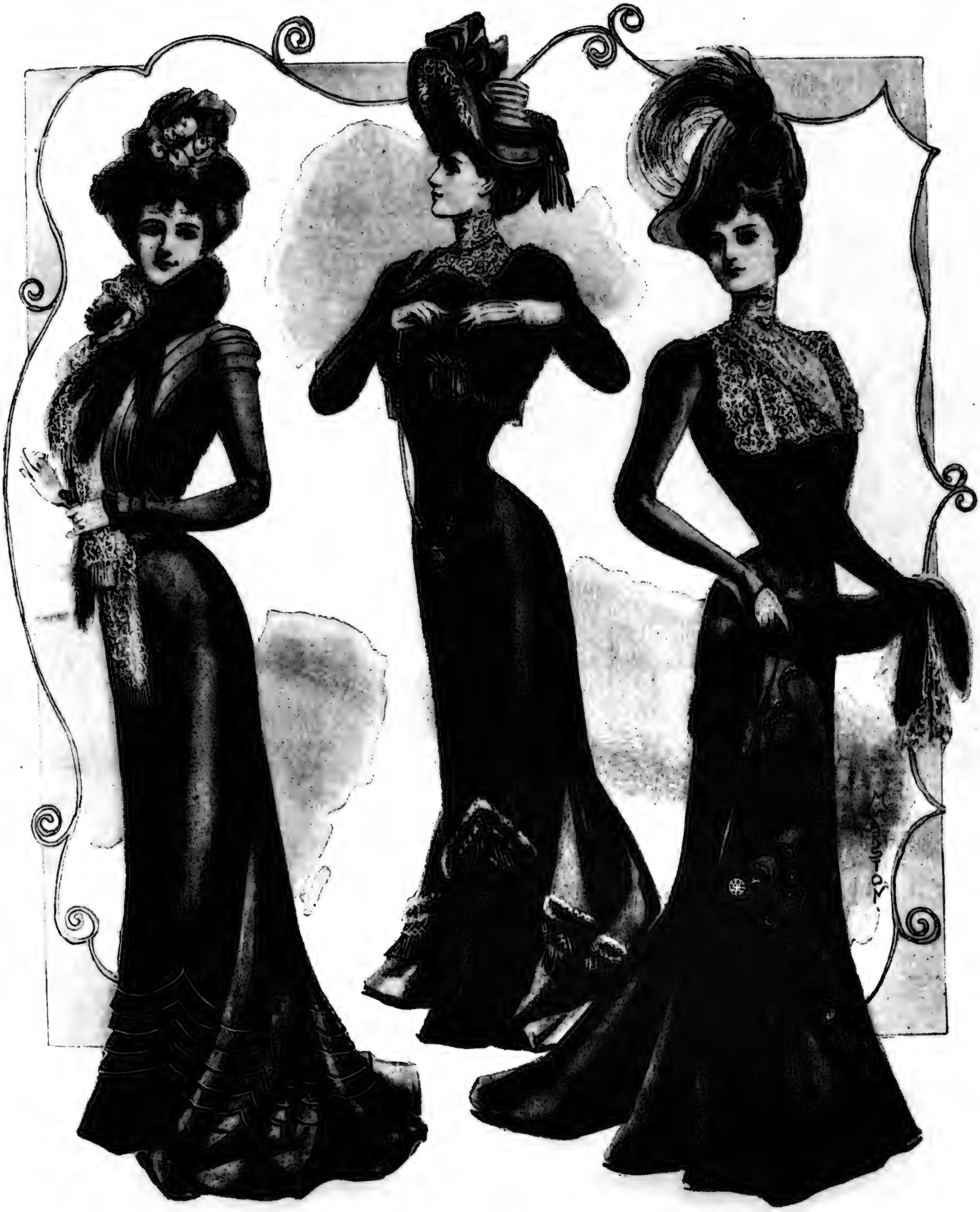

Nos. 398 to 400. A Trio of Walking Gowns.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirts or Bodices, each 6½d.; Princess Gown, 1s. 0½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W*

A Marriage of Convenience.

By ESTHER MILLER, Author of "The Sport of the Gods," &c.

CHAPTER I.

"WHO is that girl?" asked the man.

"That," replied his companion, with a smile, "is your opponent's daughter!"

"Lord Ormerod's daughter?"

"Yes, Lady Blanche Bellairs."

"She is very beautiful," said the claimant, thoughtfully, "I had heard of her, but I had no idea . . ."

His voice trailed into silence. He was looking after the woman whose bay horse had just kicked up the dust in the Row in his face. It was true that she was a magnificent creature. Her golden hair shone like silk in the sunlight, her complexion was faultless, her figure moulded in perfect lines. She was a girl still, certainly not more than twenty, with the assurance of a woman who knows her own value in the poise of her head and the curve of her short upper lip.

"She has a good seat," he added, critically. "Is she engaged to be married?"

"I haven't heard so. Why? Are you thinking of entering the lists yourself?"

"I wouldn't mind her," returned the claimant, calmly. "I haven't admired the women over here so far. They strike me as being lymphatic, after the Americans. This one looks as though she had some spirit-fire in her, in spite of her blonde hair and blue eyes."

"You're pretty cool," said the lawyer, with a curious glance.

The claimant, formerly known as Raymond Elliot, *was* cool, there was no mistake about that. He did not lose his head even on the eve of prosecuting his claim in a court of law to the Ormerod earldom, a crisis in his career which surely justified an ebullition of human emotions. He was a man of thirty, tall, dark, well-built. His eyes were brilliant, a little hard; his lips had a cynical curve, which the moustache did not hide always. He looked, in fact, as though he had a good deal of character and might be many things. His companion, who was the son of his solicitor, was wholly commonplace.

"I wish," said the claimant, "that she would turn and come back again this way."

"She will presently," replied Sennett. "Grosvenor Square is over there," you know."

The figure of girl, which had diminished to a speck, now disappeared.

"I suppose the case will be in full swing by this time to-morrow," added the lawyer.

"I suppose it will," said Bellairs, absently. "Here she comes!"

He had his wish. It seemed likely that he would have all his wishes, indeed, for the best authorities agreed that his case was flawless and the result a foregone conclusion, and a man who is thirty and in good health can obtain most things he cares for with a title and thirty thousand a year.

The girl, who was approaching at a canter, slackened to a trot, and finally to a walk, twenty paces from the two men. As she passed her eyes swept over them, returned and rested on Bellairs.

Other women looked at him; he was handsome. He stared her out of countenance, and she turned her face away, biting her lip, but not ill-pleased, perhaps. There is a sort of rudeness which a woman—even a woman accustomed to admiration—finds it easy to excuse in the opposite sex.

"Yes," he repeated, when she had passed, "she is very beautiful."

She did not return. Evidently her morning exercise was over.

"She may not own a horse to ride in a few days," remarked Sennett. "Queer world, isn't it?"

"Remarkable," acquiesced the claimant.

He was only listening to his companion with his ears; his brain was following Lady Blanche Bellairs home to Grosvenor Square, whence he would probably oust her father in the course of a week or two. It was a wonder that she had the courage to show under the circumstances. He admired pluck, even more in a girl than in a man.

He was still thinking of her as he parted with Sennett, who was bound for the city, and turned his own footsteps towards Long's Hotel.

His dark brows were levelled, he avoided collisions instinctively, his brain worked like a subtle, intricate machine provided with fresh fuel.

For weeks he had been in a state of indecision, drifting, which was unusual with him. To-day he made up his mind quickly, and it was a relief. He had not been sleeping well, although he kept so quiet.

CHAPTER II.

Lord Ormerod was reading the *Post* in the breakfast-room when his daughter descended, after changing her riding habit.

"These confounded newspapers!" he exclaimed, irritably. "I wish to heavens they would mind their own business, and leave ours alone! Good morning, my dear."

She leaned over her father, whose aristocratic white hair was growing thin, and kissed him on the forehead.

"How did you sleep?" she asked.

"Badly, of course. What can you expect?"

She sighed.

"What has annoyed you in the paper?"

"Oh, they are giving the verdict before the jury, as usual! It is so inspiriting."

"I suppose there is nothing fresh from Kenrick this morning?"

"No. What can there be? The man's case seems perfect. We shall lose, Blanche—we shall lose, you mark my words. We shall be turned into the streets, and what, my poor child, will become of you?"

Blanche glanced at herself in the glass, with a bitter smile, and unconsciously arranged a straying lock of her beautiful hair.

"Oh, I could manage, no doubt! The question is about you, papa."

"The workhouse is in store for me," he groaned.

"What nonsense, papa! Of course the family can't let you want for anything, if it comes to *that*."

"I see myself with a niggardly allowance from Wapshott and the Drakes," said Lord Omerod, with a watery smile. "Dust and ashes, Blanche; gall, the bitterness of death. It makes one thank God that your mother is no longer here."

They had never spoken to each other so plainly before. If each had realised what might happen, their own souls alone had known it.

The girl's breast heaved, great tears rose to her eyes, but she grit her teeth and blinked, and would not let them fall.

"I did not know," she said, with a deep breath, "that you were so despairing about our chances. Perhaps things will turn out better than we fear. It is useless to give way, isn't it?"

"You are a brave girl, Blanche," he said, fondling her hand, "I am proud of you."

Servants appeared with the coffee and hot dishes.

Blanche moved away, and took a flower from a vase as carelessly as though nothing were the matter, and seated herself to pour out her father's coffee.

Over breakfast, with the servants in the room, they talked of anything but the subject which was nearest to their hearts. Only when Lord Omerod rose at last, Blanche asked him if he were going to the lawyers.

"I have an appointment with Mr. Kenrick for twelve o'clock," he said. "Will you excuse me, my dear? I must write some letters."

"Can I help you, papa?"

She wanted to do something for him to-day. They were not demonstrative, as a rule, although she was his only child. He was a selfish man and a reserved man, who disliked "gush," and he had never encouraged her to "fuss" over him. Nevertheless, it was to be presumed that they were fond of each other in their own way.

Lord Ormerod looked surprised. He was incapable of understanding the finenesses of feeling which lay dormant in his daughter.

"Of course not, my dear," he said. "Why? You know I always write my own letters. I am very much obliged to you all the same," he added, as an afterthought.

The letters, it was evident, could wait. In his study, Lord Ormerod fell into a painful reverie. He was fifty, and had led a self-indulgent life. It was not agreeable to contemplate vacating the position he had held since his twenty-first birthday, at an age when power and the respect of inferiors and the consideration of his equals become a man's sole recompense for his lost youth. He disliked most of the members of his family, too; he had been a little arrogant in his security, and he would be obliged to accept with gratitude any offers of assistance they might choose to make.

As for Blanche, she could always marry; his solicitude for her had been purely polite. She had been fastidious hitherto, with perfect right; at her age and with her looks she could afford to wait. When she found that she must marry she would.

"Confound the fellow," muttered his lordship, irritably. "Why didn't the ship sink which brought him over? His father and grandfather never broached the claim. What devil of mischief prompted him to rake among those fusty papers of his and find out who he was? My luck! My luck!"

"Mr. Raymond Bellairs to see you, my lord."

"Mr. Raymond Bellairs!" stuttered Lord Ormerod.

"Yes, my lord."

Lord Ormerod passed his hand over his forehead as though he felt dazed.

"Mr. Raymond *Bellairs*. In *my* house, too! Confounded cheek, upon my word!"

He stared agitatedly at the footman, whose impassive countenance betrayed no recognition of the law-suit with which England rang.

"Shall I show the gentleman in, my lord?"

"I suppose so," said Lord Ormerod; "yes, confound him."

Jeames bowed, withdrew, and returned ushering the claimant, and once more retired with a look of curiosity, leaving the opponents alone.

"Lord Ormerod, I presume?"

"I am, sir!"

The claimant smiled. His self-possession did not desert him, even in the very stronghold of the enemy. Evidently he did not know the meaning of nerves.

"I daresay you think I have some cheek," he remarked, smiling.

"I hope," said Lord Ormerod, stiffly, "that I am gentleman enough to forbear from insulting anyone beneath my own roof, whoever he may be. Sit down, sir. May I ask——?"

"My business?" supplemented Bellairs. "Certainly." He took a seat, choosing one which afforded him a full view of his noble host's countenance. "It is of a nature somewhat delicate, purely private. Therefore I considered it more advisable to address your lordship——." Lord Ormerod noticed the intentional hesitation over his title, and bit his lip, "direct instead of through our solicitors in the usual way. You will excuse my lack of ceremony?"

Lord Ormerod bowed.

Bellairs crossed his right foot over his left and gently tapped it with his walking-stick. Lord Ormerod was purple. He was quite unequal to the occasion, which the insolent young man took so easily. His temper was too bad, and he had the further disadvantage of being unaware of the drift of the proceedings.

He noticed mechanically, nevertheless, that the young man he preferred to call Raymond Elliot was presentable and exceptionally well dressed. The fellow had evidently brought some money over with him, worse luck.

"It is the will of fate," resumed Bellairs, "that we should be obliged to contest against each other for certain material advantages to which, no doubt, both of us feel entitled. As you are in possession, I have no doubt that you hate me for disturbing the serenity of years. I, on the other hand, can look at the position more philosophically. I have never enjoyed those advantages which have become habitual to you, and—if you will pardon my saying so—my sympathy with you is sincere. Nevertheless, I am neither a philanthropist nor a Don Quixote; I want what is mine, and this morning I rose with the full intention of prosecuting my claim relentlessly. Since then other ideas have arisen. I should like to marry your daughter."

"You would like to marry my daughter!" exclaimed Lord Ormerod, amazed. "Why, when—where—? You have never met!"

"I saw her in the Row this morning," replied the claimant, coolly, "and I always make up my mind quickly."

"You did not speak to her?"

"Naturally I should not be guilty of such an impertinence. I admired Lady Blanche, with the greatest respect, from afar. Come, Lord Ormerod, we are men of the world, you and I. Can we not arrange this affair amicably? Between ourselves—we are alone—you may as well admit that you know you have no chance whatever to-morrow. I shall win, and I shall be empowered to take everything you have, from your title to"—his eyes rested upon his opponent's white hand—"your diamond ring. It would be an ugly position for you, and I should be sorry; but—I repeat that I am not quixotic—every man for himself."

Lord Ormerod fidgetted. He had turned pale just now under the stress of a surprise which had deprived him of breath; now the colour was returning to his face.

"Allowing—for the sake of argument only," he hastened to add, "that your summary of our relative positions are correct, and—and I—my daughter Blanche, that is to say—felt inclined to weigh your extraordinary proposal, what would you suggest?"

"I should suggest," said Bellairs, fixing his brilliant black eyes on the older man, who was as transparent as glass before them, "that you continued to enjoy during your life time the title which I, as an American, do not value, and that we should share equally the rent-roll of the estates. On your death, of course, I should prove my claim for the sake of my son—your grandson."

There was a long silence.

Lord Ormerod rose, and paced agitatedly up and down. He had forgotten by this time that Bellairs had entered the room as his enemy. He recognised that a whim on the part of this man—a whim comprehensible enough—had placed a means of salvation in his power, a way of saving a position which he was forced to regard as desperate; the affair would be kept out of court; and if people suspected that the claim had been "squared," and that his rights were shaky, it would be nobody's business to prove it, and gossip of the kind soon dies.

His heart beat fast. It was a temptation. There was no doubt about that.

"Of course," he said at last, "you would not expect an answer immediately?" He wiped his forehead. "I should be obliged to consult my solicitor, my daughter, if—if I am to take it that your proposal is serious."

"You need have no doubt about that," said Bellairs. "And I have no wish to either hurry you or Lady Blanche. Only remember you must come to a decision to-day. To-morrow would be too late."

Lord Ormerod nodded, moistening his dry lips.

"I will speak to Kenrick at once," he said, "and, if he approves, I will place your proposal before my daughter. You will understand that the final decision rests with her. I should not attempt to force her inclination in any way."

Bellairs' lips curled in a faint smile.

"I understand thoroughly," he said, which was true, and rose.

"Then may I hope to hear from your Lordship this evening?"

"This evening," repeated Lord Ormerod, affirmatively, "I will communicate with you, sir. Meanwhile, may I say that I am obliged to you for your amicable intentions?"

The claimant bowed, the defendant bowed also, and rang the bell; Jeames and a brother plush flung open the big double front door, and Mr. Bellairs took his departure from the aristocratic mansion as calmly as he had entered it, but he smiled as he descended the steps.

Lord Ormerod sank down in his big armchair, and wiped his face.

"Good God!" he exclaimed. "What will Kenrick say? What will Blanche say? What a position!"

CHAPTER III.

Lady Blanche was alone at luncheon that day. The earl had gone out shortly after his visitor left, and not returned.

The carriage was waiting for her, and she was descending the staircase dressed for driving when her father met her. He looked pale, agitated.

"What's the matter?" she asked, quickly.

"I must speak to you, Blanche."

"Yes."

He followed her to the nearest room, and shut the door.

"I have just left Kenrick," he said. "Did you hear that I had a visitor this morning?"

"No; who was it?"

"Raymond Bellairs."

"What! He called here! The audacity!"

"He came on a friendly errand, Blanche," said Lord Ormerod, huskily. "In fact, he came to propose a settlement."

"He is afraid, then! He admits that we have a chance!"

"Not at all. It is a bargain that he suggests. He wants you, Blanche."

"Me!" ejaculated the girl. She turned very pale. "He does not know me!"

"It seems that he saw you in the Row this morning, and admired you," said her father, sulkily, "like any other man, I suppose. Only we are obliged to treat this one seriously."

"How is it possible that he can care to ask for a woman he has only caught a glimpse of in a public place! It is extraordinary! What would he give you in return?"

"The claim would not be pressed; I should remain in undisputed possession, until my death, of the title, and half the rent-roll. It is generous, Blanche, there is no doubt about that. The fellow means well. And think, Blanche,"—his voice trembled—"think what it would save me!"

"What does Mr. Kenrick say?" she asked, intently.

"Oh, you know what those lawyers are," he said, with an irritable gesture. "He won't give a decided opinion one way or the other, in case it turned out wrong. He admits that we haven't a leg to stand upon, but the claim *might* fail."

"And what is your opinion, papa?"

"Ah, Blanche, you know what I think already. It is a God's-send, this offer." His voice shook with eagerness and anxiety, and that his emotion

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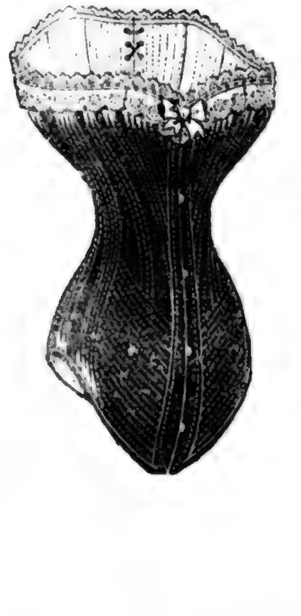

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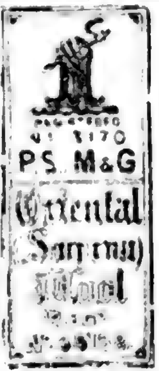

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was purely selfish did not detract from its pathos. "Ruin stares me in the face, and you can save me. There would be no perceptible difference in my position, and at my death—nothing could be more desirable—the title would descend to your husband and your son, knitting the two branches of the family together, and cutting out that cad, Victor Bellairs, whom I have always detested."

The girl raised her hands to her cheeks, which were burning suddenly. Lord Ormerod, absorbed in his dislikes and egotisms, did not even notice that he had said anything to make her blush.

"I can't consent till I have seen him!" she cried. "I don't say no—but I can't, I won't say yes until I have seen him."

"Of course not, my dear; I understand," he said soothingly. His pale, grey eyes were bright. "I don't expect it of you. And, indeed, I would not ask you to consider the man if he were objectionable in any way. But he is young, well-mannered, agreeable, I should say, and-er-distinctly handsome, and looks, I know, go so far with your charming sex, my dear!"

"Not so far as they do with yours, papa!"

"Ahem!" said his lordship. "Perhaps not, but—"

"I shan't judge by the shape of his eyes, or the colour of his hair," said Blanche, rapidly. "But I shall know when I see him." She drew a deep breath and shuddered. "There are some men I couldn't marry for anything in the world!"

Lord Ormerod stood uncomfortably silent. His beautiful Blanche had a will of her own. How fervently he hoped that she would not take Bellairs badly. There is no way of foreseeing a woman's fads and fancies.

When does he want his answer?" she added.

"To-night. I thought that if—if you were agreeable, my dear, I might ask him to dinner."

"Very well," she acquiesced.

"I will go and write the note at once," said Lord Ormerod with alacrity. "I am very much obliged for the consideration you are showing me, Blanche."

"I will do my best for you, father. You know—you know that I am very fond of you," she said, with an emotional break in her voice.

He was in terror that she was going to cry. He felt that he ought to kiss her at this moment, but feared by injudicious sentiment to precipitate the threatened scene.

"Of course, you are the best of daughters, Blanche—a dear, good child," he said, hastily. "I shan't forget your conduct at this most trying time."

"I haven't consented yet," she reminded him.

"No, no; but you will, I am sure!"

"Father?"

"My dear?"

"You are quite—quite sure that he would win?"

"Alas, there is no shadow of doubt in my mind."

"Very well," she said, leaning her elbow on the mantelpiece and her chin upon her hand, "go and send your invitation."

After Lord Ormerod had escaped, with a sigh of relief and new life in his veins, the girl raised her head and looked at the reflection of her eyes, which were liquid and dark with the tears she had refused to shed, as though she were probing her own soul through them.

"I have waited," she said, "and I have dreamed. . . . Is it to end like this?"

She turned away from the glass with a gesture of passion.

"They always seemed so mean, so tame to me, these marriages of convenience, which women in society make, and if mine is to be like this . . . worse, a thousand times, not better than the majority! Poor me, poor dumb soul of mine, which may never speak! . . . What can he be, a man who would marry me for the sake of my looks alone? They say that love, real love, has been known to come at sight. It may be so! I shall know, I shall feel what he is when I see him—and if—if I dislike him, I couldn't, my God, not even if my mother were alive to ask me!"

She rang the bell.

"Send the carriage away. I am not going out."

"Yes, my lady."

"And if any callers come, I am not at home."

The servant withdrew, and Blanche went upstairs and removed her things, and spent the rest of the afternoon in her boudoir alone. She could not rest. A fire burned in her blue eyes, her cheeks flushed and paled. What was he like, this man upon whom her father's future and her own depended? How would they meet? Where would she find the courage to face an introduction procured for such a purpose?

It was a terrible day. In all her life she had not known such another. The sickening excitement, which alternately enervated her and strung her nerves to the highest tension of endurance, was an experience she would never forget. She was not weak, she was not hysterical, she was not a fool; but when her jewelled watch told her that it was six o'clock, and time to dress for the most eventful dinner of her life, a wave of heat swept over her, and she would have given a year of her life for an hour's delay. Yet, as she sat still while her maid brushed her glorious golden hair, the forced inaction of the moment drove her frantic with impatience—with impatience to have the meeting over and done with, to have made her decision for good or ill.

What would he be like? So much—everything in this case—depended upon the first impression. She did not ask for sentiment from herself, it was impossible to expect that; she would be satisfied if she could respect him, find him companionable, and refined.

"Oh, for heaven's sake, make haste, Marie!" she cried. "You are so slow to-night!"

"I beg your pardon, my lady, I thought that I had been but a few moments."

"I have sat here for an hour—a month—ten years!" exclaimed Blanche. I am irritable, Marie, that is all! You are always so quick that you spoil me."

"Thank you, my lady."

Blanche rose, and donned her gown of shimmering silver and white. She had never looked more beautiful, Her face was almost as pale now as the silk, and her white round arms, and her young throat with its necklet of pearls, and her eyes shone under the dark lashes, and the coils of her hair were fit coronal for a queen. She descended to the drawing-room to wait for the crisis of her life.

Lord Ormerod was already in waiting for their guest, and gave her a glance of approval.

"What did you say in the note, papa?" she asked in a low tone.

"I told him that I had placed the proposal before you, but, though disposed to regard it favourably, you could give no definite reply until you had met him. Such being the case, would he dine with us at seven oclock? It is four minutes to seven now, by the way," added Lord Omerod, glancing at the clock. "You look charming this evening, my dear, but then your taste is always excellent."

Blanche made no response. Her hearing abnormally sharpened, as were all her senses, had detected the sound of wheels stopping before the house, and her eyes went instinctively to the door.

She turned away, and picked up a magazine.

"Mr. Raymond Bellairs."

Now that he was in the room, the man whom fate had made the pivot of her life, curiously enough her self-possession returned to her, and in an instant she was mistress, outwardly, at any rate, of herself.

Lord Ormerod advanced to meet his guest. They had parted with a mere bow this morning; he extended his hand to the young man to-night.

"It was kind of you to write to me," said Bellairs.

He looked cool, handsome, smiling, well-bred. As usual, he was admirably dressed, and, perhaps in honour of the evening, there was a gardenia in his button-hole.

"Not at all," said Lord Ormerod. "Er—allow me to introduce you to my daughter, Blanche."

She was as pale as marble, but otherwise showed no sign of emotion. Women of her class do not wear their hearts upon their sleeves. She shook hands with him, and he said that it gave him pleasure to make her acquaintance. They exchanged a few remarks, and when dinner was announced he offered her his arm. Over the table they conversed about the things which men and women usually do converse about when they meet in society. There was, of course, no allusion to the impending law-suit, or the motive of his visit. Perhaps now and again he conveyed the impression of listening to her and watching her with greater attention than a man usually pays to the partner of a dinner, and she was more fearful of pauses than it was her habit to be, and Lord Ormerod's jokes and laughter were too frequent and too forced; but there was nothing tangible for the servants, passing silently round the table, to repeat below stairs.

Bellairs talked about America, and Blanche told him she loved horses and detested cats. She left the table early, and the men remained behind to smoke their cigars. The servants withdrew. They were alone.

"You understood my note?" asked Ormerod, dropping the mask. "The decision rests with her. You must speak to her yourself. I—I have done my best."

Bellairs nodded, and lowered his lashes, which were womanishly long and silky, to cover the gleam of satisfaction in his eyes.

"I am much obliged to you. I quite understand."

They smoked in silence for awhile, both busy with their own thoughts.

Bellairs bit his cigar through, and threw the pieces on his plate among the walnut shells. A fit of impatience had suddenly attacked him.

"Shall we adjourn?" asked the earl, with a curious huskiness in his voice.

"Yes."

"Would—would you like to talk to Blanche alone for a little while? I will join you later on."

"Thank you," said Bellairs, shortly.

As he left the room Lord Ormerod emptied the liqueur glass of brandy he had just poured out for himself.

Blanche was at the piano, running her fingers fitfully over the keys, when Bellairs came in.

Instantly she glanced past him for her father, and realised that they were alone, and why. She rose, and went to the fire—it was early spring—and he joined her there.

"You ride well!" he said, smiling.

"So it is you!" she replied.

He did not affect to misunderstand her. When they met this evening he had seen at once that she recognised him.

"Yes, it is I!" he said. "I need not repeat to you what your father has already said. Will you marry me, Blanche?"

He was gazing into her eyes, and she returned his gaze with peculiar steadiness.

"Yes!" she said.

He took her hand and raised it to his lips.

(To be continued.)

◆

A very pretty way of treating a boudoir wall is to flute it with art muslin in two colours—say, half a dozen flutes in pale blue and half a dozen in pale pink, and so on in alternate groups of pink and blue flutes. Or a mixture of cream and pink flutes is equally charming. The walls of one of our great millionaire's houses was recently treated in this way, and the effect was very fresh-looking and novel. It is an extravagant method certainly, and would never become common. However, the idea might be more generally adopted if it were put to the use of wardrobe panels, in which case it would not necessitate the using of an enormous quantity of material. Coloured linen could take the place of muslin and would be more durable.

"A peril at your own doors, greater than can come from any Boer aggression," so said Lord Rosebery in his fine speech on the "housing" problem, and so must say every single man or woman who has begun to realise the situation in which a large proportion of our working population in all the big towns find themselves to-day, as a result of exorbitant rents and insanitary dwellings. Within the last two generations matters have gone from bad to worse with startling speed. We have all long known that the very lowest of our cities' populations are huddled in cellars and hovels; but to-day it is no longer a question of the lowest. It has come to this, that (speaking only for London now) in many over-crowded districts the highly respectable labourer, in receipt of constant and what used to be sufficient wages, absolutely cannot secure for himself and his family a decent dwelling-place. For wretched corners of shockingly unhealthy "rabbit warrens," he is forced to pay the larger proportion of his wages. Often and often one room, even at this rate, is all he can get; and let those who cannot realise the suffering and inevitable degradation resulting from some five or six people—all ages and both sexes—being herded into one room, only go and see it for themselves. They will need no second picture: they will say thereafter, as did Lord Rosebery, "A remedy *must* be found," and they will welcome County Council dwellings, publication of the names of owners of "slum property," heavy taxes on vested interests—*anything*, almost, for change.

Palmistry.

How to Take an Impression.—*Get a tube cf finger-print ink from your colourman, or a tube of lamp-black paint from any stationer, and squeeze a little into a saucer. Then take a pad of cotton wool, and dab the ink lightly and firmly over the hand, which should be pressed firmly on a piece of white paper, the latter resting on a rather firm cushion or a mound of silver sand. In taking the hand away, raise it carefully from the wrist. It is absolutely necessary to send impressions of both hands. The age and sex of the querist must be stated, and whether married or single.*

Delineations are given without charge in these columns if the Palmistry Coupon is cut from this paper and is enclosed with the impression of the hands. Three questions can be asked.

Letters should be addressed to Lachesis, "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Detailed delineations will be sent by post on receipt of 2s. 6d. and a stamped addressed envelope. Such letters should be marked "Special."

H. L. M. (Cornwall).—Yes, your business will prosper, and through your own efforts. Long life is shown, also a happy marriage, which should take place soon. Be careful of an influence in your life in the present.

Amy MacDonald (Bedford).—Your impressions are not good, but from what I can see the future looks bright and happy, and travelling is certainly indicated in small journeys. Your second question is difficult to answer because of the blur, but I do not think he will cross your path again.

Seymour.—Success is certainly shown, also travelling in a small way. You will marry twice, and both unions will bring you money. Your impressions are not very successful.

Mona Carrington.—Your marriage will be soon and very happy. More money is shown in the future. Have you ever tried to write? Literary talent is strongly marked.

Fleet.—Marriage shows at thirty or possibly before, and you know the man now. You have more money after thirty-five, and a happy successful life is before you. You had some trouble in your childhood.

Daisy Bell.—You will certainly marry, but your impressions are not clear enough to give the date. You will have four children, and from what I can see should know your future husband now.

Barbara M. (Penzance).—You will be married very shortly, and already know your future husband. I cannot tell you his occupation from your hand, but he should be more fair than dark. There are two men who like you now.

Posey.—You will marry soon, and as far as I can tell from your very indifferent impressions you know the man now. Your circumstances will be better after forty.

E. G. (Bexley Heath).—I am sure you will marry, but your hands were all stuck together, so cannot give the date. You are very sensitive, and worry and fret too much over little things.

Autumn Leaf.—Your impressions show that you have made the best of your life. I see a change coming before sixty which brings you more money, and there is a wedding coming for a member of your family, of whom you are very fond.

Devonia H.—You would succeed far better as a hospital nurse than with music. You will marry about twenty-five, and have to choose between two men. You have great observation.

E. A. B.—You will marry again very shortly; but your impressions are not clear enough to tell much. As far as I can tell your second marriage brings you more monev.

Anxious.—Your reply will appear in the paper in its turn. I have no time to answer letters privately.

Trilby (Forfarshire).—Certainly you will be married, and very soon. Your life will be happy and prosperous. I see changes at thirty-five, forty-two, and forty-eight. The one at forty-two means more money. Your husband will be fond of you.

Ellie.—Your impressions are too bad for me to answer all your questions. Marriage is shown in the future, but can give you no date. I do not think you know the man yet.

A. E. (East Southsea).—You have asked no questions. There are several changes in your life from now until fifty, and an especially great one at the age of forty. There is someone connected with your money affairs whom you should not trust too implicitly.

Kitty Briton.—You will marry, but your impressions are not good enough for me to give particulars. As far as I can tell there is more money later on. You have plenty of determination, and should get on in the world.

Nosegay (Edinburgh).—Your marriage shows within the next three years, and will bring you more money. The future looks prosperous. There is a great change in your life at thirty-five.

Old Maid.—Yes, to someone you know now. There are three children for certain, and probably more. More money shows after thirty-five.

Anxious to Know.—The first cross you mention means marriage, the second an influence in your life adverse to your ambition. Long life is shown, and you will outlive your husband. More money comes to you after forty-three.

Mona (aged 17).—You ask no questions. You have a prosperous future before you, and plenty of variety. There are changes at twenty, twenty-seven, thirty-three and forty-three. You will be married twice.

Brown Eyes.—Your impressions were all stuck together. No, you will not always remain in your present business. You will marry about thirty, possibly sooner; but the palm is too blurred to say decisively. A better position show later on.

Ivy (Northampton).—You will marry and have more money afterwards. Your future looks bright. I would certainly continue with the dressmaking. You do not know the gentleman you will marry yet.

F. E. N. (Thornton Heath).—I see three children marked in your hand, also a second marriage. You will certainly be better off in the future than you are now.

R. A. W. (Guildford).—You will marry soon and will have to make up your mind between two men, one of whom you have already met. More money shows between now and thirty.

To Nemo (Bristol).—Your business line seems to undergo some change at forty-three, about which you should be careful. Things should go well with you, but the future greatly depends on what you do them. Travelling is indicated later on.

Molly (Schenectady).—Marriage shows before thirty-five and you know the man now. Your future is much more successful than your past, and the happiest time of your life has to come.

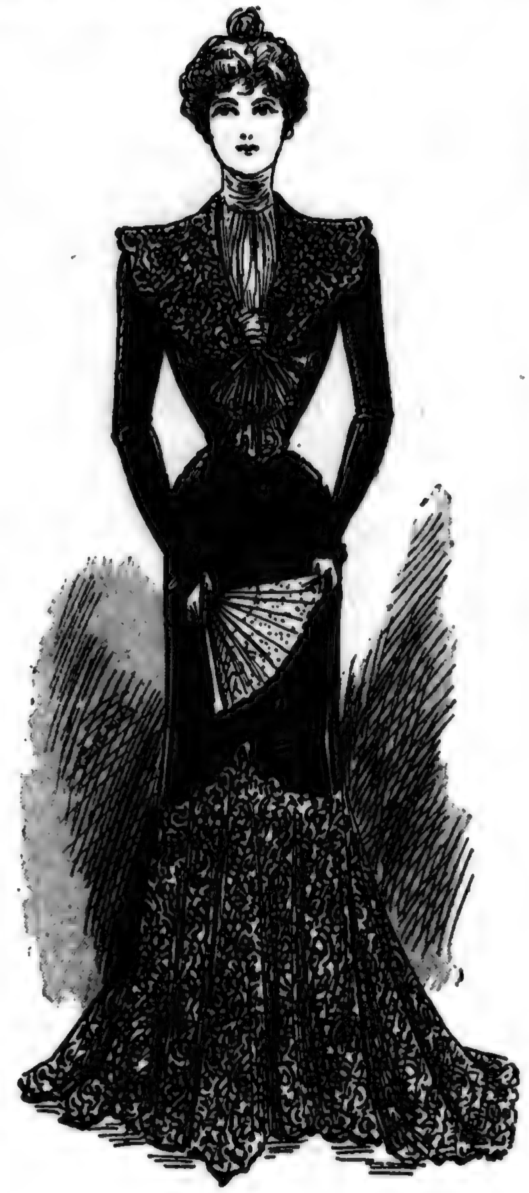
Trinity (Camberwell).—You should certainly be good at dressmaking. Marriage is shown, and you will have a chance offered you very soon. You worry too much over little things, and should take life more restfully.

May (Stoke Newington).—I see prosperity in your future life, and your business seems to flourish. The man you marry you know now. The letters H and N are marked.

Amy.—Your impressions are very bad. You will certainly marry, but it is impossible to tell the date or any particulars. There is a change in your life at thirty, and another at thirty-five.

A. S. B. F. (Perth).—You do not state your age. From what I can see, you should live long: but that particular part is blurred. Your business should succeed, and there is more money in the future.

Darkie (Boston).—Your impressions are dreadfully indistinct, but your marriage seems to come very near the present time. There is more money after thirty-five, and a change in your life at forty-three.



No. 401. An Indoor Gown.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirt or Bodice, each 6½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Catherine (Knowle).—You will have the chance of a second marriage, but I am not sure that you will take it. There is more money after fifty. You must be careful not to overtax your strength just at the present time.

Camelia.—You have not met your future husband yet, but should do so very shortly. You will have three children. I would advise you to keep to your present occupation as your type of hand is just suitable for it.

Welsh Girl (Ferndale).—I am afraid I cannot see much from your impressions. One hand is quite unreadable. I think I see marriage and more money in the future, but can give you no particulars. You must send me a better impression another time.

Beaty (Stockport).—Your impressions are too bad for delineation. I see changes at thirty-five, forty-four, and fifty. You are very sensitive.

D. A. P. (Clovelly).—You will marry very soon, and your life seems prosperous and happy. Have you ever tried millinery? You would succeed with it very well.

Wild Rose (Knowle).—You will certainly marry very soon, and already know your future husband. Your marriage brings you more money, and at thirty-five there is a further increase

Gabrielle.—Your circumstances improve after forty-three. You have a good business hand and a talent for organization. You will have a chance of marrying before you are forty.

Guelpes (Carrara).—You have a very small hand and excellent business qualities. There is a great change in your life at thirty-five. You will marry; bus the impression is too indistinct to give date. You will have three children.

Florita (Boscombe).—The rest of your life will not be lonely, as marriage will bring you companionship, and you will get your wish. With your strong will you should excel in anything you take up.

Trebovir.—You will certainly marry, but do not be in too great a hurry. The greatest change in your life will come when you are thirty.

Kenley.—You will marry before you are twenty-seven, and your life seems happy afterwards. Always take time before deciding anything of great importance.

Aimee.—A long journey shows in your hand before thirty, and your marriage comes very soon afterwards. The letters R, M, and H are marked.

Dado (Notting Hill).—I am afraid you have some trouble coming to you, but things turn out well for you in the future, and your marriage will be a happy one. You have decided literary talent, which will bring both money and success later on.

Violet (St. Clears).—You will marry, and already know your future husband, but impressions are too bad to give you particulars. The most important part is quite blurred.

D. B. (Enfield).—You will marry twice. Your first husband you have either just met or are just going to. You must be careful of your health at thirty-five.

Joy Dingle.—You will be married to a man you know now before you are thirty-three. Your life, so far as I can tell from bad impressions, will be happy.

Little Tich.—You will be married before thirty. Your present business seems to prosper, but I think you will give it up after marriage. There is an increase of money after thirty-six.

Floral.—There is some trouble at the time of your marriage, and you will also have to be careful at the age of thirty-five. Eventually things will turn out quite right. You will travel later on in life.

Aldersey.—You will have another chance of marriage, but should be careful before deciding. There is a change for you coming between forty-six and forty-seven, and another one at fifty.

Alice E. M.—You will marry before thirty-five. Money comes to you at three separate times during your life. You will have one child.

Duty.—Your impressions are almost hopeless, as they have stuck together. There is more money for you in the future, but can give you no date.

Sambo (Lee).—You will marry, but not just yet; one of your love affairs has already come to grief; there is more money for you before twenty-eight. There will be one child. You should be careful of an influence in your life at the present time.

Sow Sow (Africa).—Marriage shows very soon, and you have already met your future husband; this position will be better later on in life than it is at first.

Elizabeth (Devonport).—I am afraid I can tell you very little from your bad impressions; but your health will certainly improve after forty. There is a change in your life at forty-two which should be for the better.

Silver Queen (London).—You will certainly succeed in your business, and I would advise you to stick to that rather than change it for literary work. You have talent for the latter, but it is uphill work. Your marriage will bring you more money.

Matilda (Kensington).—I see great success in your hand You will marry before forty-two. You have a clever hand and an excellent head. Marriage brings you much happiness.

Bonny Lassie (Port Dinorwic).—You will marry before twenty-five. Your future husband, whom you have not met yet, will be fair. Your circumstances improve five years after marriage.

Pansy Blue (Port Dinorwic).—You should be married very soon, and your prospects improve at the same time. You will have three children. You have a capable hand, but require a little more determination.

May Flower (Port Dinorwic).—You will be married within the next five years, and must be careful of your health just at that time. You will have two children, possibly more. There is more money at thirty, and a further increase at forty-two.

An Old Subscriber (Southampton).—I can tell you very little from your hands, they are too rubbed; but from what I can see your marriage will be at about twenty-seven, and you already know the man. There is some little trouble at the time. The marriage will certainly better you financially.

La Poupee (Wellingboro').—You have very capable hands. You will marry before you are twenty-six. There is an influence your life at the present time; but it is not the one whom you will marry.

H. S. (Edinbro').—You should be careful of that strong influence in your life at present. I do not think you will marry him. There is another influence in your life at the present, and I think eventually you will decide to marry him. Although you do not care about him now, you will like him much better afterwards.

Lonely One (Skipton).—Your impressions are not very successful, so I am afraid I cannot answer your questions; but I see a change at forty-two, and another at forty-eight.

Dick (Skipton).—I should advise you to stick to your post at present; business on one's own account is always rather risky. There is a chance of marriage coming to you shortly from a man whom you know now, and who is rather more fair than dark. There is a change in your life at forty-one.

Banjo (Bristol).—You will marry, but your married life will be very short; you will be a widow at forty-seven. You know the man now, and there is no want of money in the future.

Enna (Leyton).—There is a change in your life at forty-three; but a blur in your hand just at that time prevents my telling you if it is marriage or not. There is more money for you in the future, but I do not see any sign of travelling.

Bachelor.—I see an F. A. T. and an M. in your palm. You will be better off after thirty-nine. Some money is coming to you through a death. You ought to live to old age, but must take care of yourself and not worry over little things.

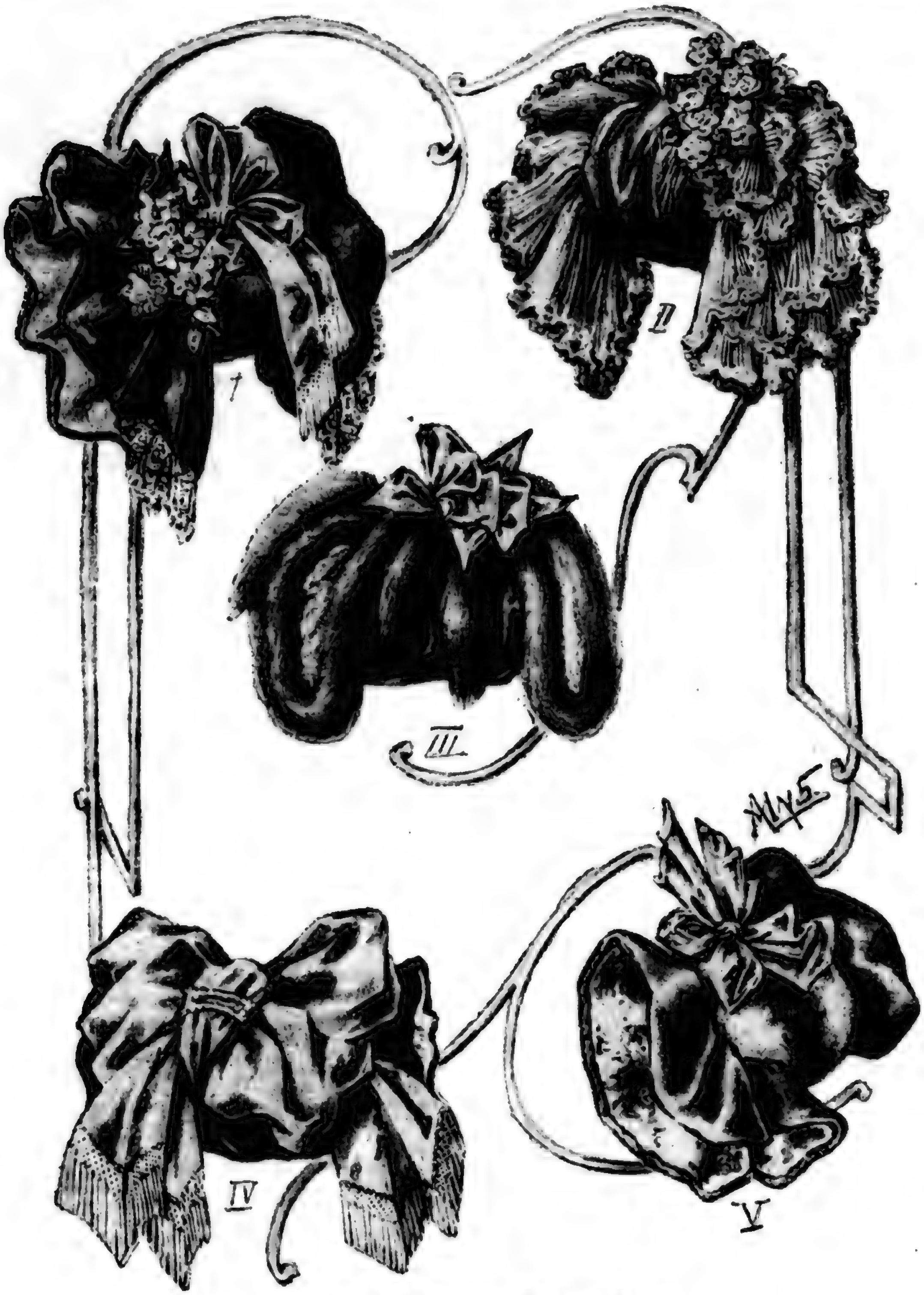
Rosetta.—There is much travelling for you when you are about thirty. You should marry before then, but your left hand is unreadable, and I cannot say for certain.

(*Some of the delineations crowded out of this page will be found on pages* 12 *and* 16.)

DESCRIPTIONS of our ILLUSTRATIONS

Nos. 339 to 341.—Velvet Wraps Strapped with Cloth. (Page 5.)

No. 339. Elegant visiting or promenade costume, the new trained coat, which in warmer weather is worn with no dress underneath, much seen at fashionable weddings, &c. Of velours du nord, cut in five breadths—a sacque back (pleated at the neck), a side piece on each side and two loose fronts. It buttons invisibly down the front, Chesterfield fashion, the buttonholes made in the right facing (the fronts are faced with pistache cloth). Seam the coat; turn up the edge all round over a band of muslin; face the fronts. A shaped band of pistache green cloth—a very scanty shaped frill, in fact—is lined with muslin, covered with cloth; the edges are turned in, and the whole thing is closely stitched with green silk. The pattern of the frill is in one piece—half the frill; but it can be made up of breadths, as seams do not show beneath the stitching. The frill edges the coat and mounts the fronts, tapering off to scarcely anything as it meets beneath the bust strap of stitched cloth. The revers cut with the fronts are faced with stitched cloth in one with the front facing. Wherever the cloth is stitched it must be supported with muslin. Four-piece collar of velvet, stiffened, faced with stitched cloth. One paste button fastens the crossed bust strap. Tight two-piece sleeve, with strap and added bell cuff (made like the coat frill) of stitched cloth. Line with green glacé, cut on the coat pattern but seamed apart. Quantity of 42-inch velvet required, 6 yards. A capital visiting costume for a young matron.



No. 402. A Group of Pretty Muffs.

For Description see Pages 32 *to* 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, each 3½*d., post free, of* Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

No. 340. Smart three-quarter coat of velours du nord, with two-piece back, two side pieces on each side, and two-piece fronts. Strap the right front seam and right front edge with buff satin cloth, decorating with pretty buttons. Sleeve like No. 339, with stitched strap and bell cuff of buff cloth. Face the fronts with buff cloth. Line the rest with buff silk cut on the coat pattern, but seamed apart. Four-piece collar of velvet, stiffened with canvas, faced with velvet, edged with a stitched cloth-strap. Quantity of material required, Velours du Nord, 3½ yards.

No. 341. Smart cape, cut in two pieces, seamed at the back, fitted with shoulder darts. Line with mauve satin, after edging the velvet with a shaped band of mauve cloth, stitched with silk. One-piece pélerine, fitted with darts, lined with satin, edged with three-stitched straps, each cut to shape. Two-piece collar of velvet, stiffened, faced with stitched cloth. Lace bow sewn on cloth fronts. Quantity of 42-inch velvet required, 4 yards. To make the straps properly, the cloth should be tacked and stitched in place before cutting out. This means a great deal of cloth—nearly as much as the garment trimmed. For No. 341, for instance, as much cloth must be allowed as would cut the long cape. The pelerine straps (as much cloth as velvet) can come out of the cloth, above the cape strap, and the collar above that. Of course, cloth can be saved by a few seams; but seams are avoided by good dressmakers with a fairly wealthy *clientèle* who demand the best.

No. 346.—A New Coat. (Page 7.)

This dainty little short sacque has a back, a side piece on each side, and two single-breasted fronts cut with very large revers. These revers are quite unstiffened. They are faced with velvet (slipstitched edges), and are arranged on the fronts with a few stitches, or are left free. The coat hooks at the top and buttons below the revers. A good model for cloth or to match the skirt. Line with silk or "polonaise," cut on the coat pattern, but seamed apart. Three-piece collar, stiffened, faced with velvet. Two-piece fitted sleeve. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 2 yards.

No. 347.—"Japanese" Dressing-Gown. (Page 8.)

A good model for Viyella, plain or striped. Unlined, it is mounted in six breadths—two double-breasted fronts, a double side piece (fitted with a dart on each side), and two backs—into a three-piece lined yoke, open in front, and filled in with a Viyella plastron and band collar (lined). Flannel revers collar (one piece), faced with soft silk. Sash of soft silk. A panel of silk is arranged on the right front below the waist. One-piece wing sleeve (with added corner, to make the flannel wide enough), lined with silk, the edge turned back to show the lining. Quantity of 30-inch material required, 12 yards.

Nos. 348 to 351.—Styles for Mourning. (Page 9.)

No. 348. Three-gore skirt of black diagonal cloth, with two pleats at the back, lined with silk or mercerised lining, trimmed with bias bands of crape mounted on muslin. Cut a bodice lining with double right front, so that it hooks to the left front down the centre, then crosses to hook under the left arm and on the left shoulder. Tack, fit, seam, and bone the lining, leaving only the side and shoulder seams. Cover the lower part with a stretched back and a full front, the fullness arranged in a group of pleats on each side. Above is a triple yoke—really a three-piece yoke above two curved bands of crape. Two-piece sleeve, with crape bias bands at the shoulder. Stiffen the bell wrist and face with crape-covered silk. Band collar of crape and silk, supported by bones. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 6 yards.

No. 349. Princess gown. Cut a lining in seven pieces—two backs, a double side piece (fitted with a dart) on each side, and a three-piece front, fastening on the left of the centre panel. Cover this panel with crape—a skirt part tucked at the edge and a plastron tucked vertically. Cover the backs and side pieces with black cloth. A separate pattern is required for the front sides of cloth, which cross the crape panel to hook beneath a crape bow. Crape revers, collar mounted on silk. Tucked band collar, mounted on silk, supported by bones. Two-piece silk sleeve, covered with pleated crape, arranged in bias bands over each other. Quantity of material required, 48-inch cloth, 6 yards; crape, 5 yards.

No. 350. Young widow. Cut a Princess lining like No. 349. Cover the lower part with a broad band of crape. Cover the top of the centre panel with pleated crape. Separate patterns are required for the covering of Indian cashmere, which has two fronts open at the neck, and the lower edge of the whole is cut in deep Vandykes. Make up lining and cashmere together and bone with care. Edge the cashmere with deep silk fringe. The fronts fasten with small hooks and eyes across the lining panel. One-piece collar of silk and crape. Band collar of crape like No. 348. Two-piece bell-sleeve, with added cuff of crape. Quantity of 48-inch cashmere required, 5 yards; crape, 5 yards.

No. 351. Cut a five-gore skirt in lining, with reversed box-pleat at the back. Cover the lower edge with silk and crape. Over it is mounted the skirt of black cloth, which is scalloped and slipstitched to the crape band. Smart double-breasted coat of cloth, the fronts faced with cloth, the rest lined with black silk, which is cut on the coat pattern, but is seamed apart. One-piece collar, the edge turned up over a band of black muslin. Facing of crape, slipstitched to the turned cloth edge. Two-piece sleeve. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 6 yards; crape, 2 yards.

No, 352.—An Art Tea Gown. (Page 10).

Cut a Princess lining like No. 349. Cover the centre panel with pleated mauve silk, the other breadths with black *peau de soie*. Make up lining and silk together, fit and bone with care. Long revers to the feet of black silk, stiffened, edged with a mauve ribbon ruche, the upper part lined with mauve silk. Added revers to the waist of tucked mauve silk and lace. Pleated band collar with silk frill, the collar supported with bones. One-piece wing sleeve (with added corners where the black silk is not wide enough), lined with mauve, edged with a mauve ruche. Quantity of 22-inch silk required, black, 14 yards; mauve, 4 yards.

No. 353.—One of the New Pleated Skirts. (Page 11.)

Cut and make a five-gore skirt in lining (silk or mercerised cotton), covering the front with silk broché. Make a sun-ray skirt out of a square of thin satin cloth (made up of breadths). Round off the corners, cut away the front edges, and hem to the right length, and, after marking out the waist in the centre, send it to be pleated to Mr. Hammett (190, Euston Road), asking that the pleats should be made to meet at the back, so that they turn from each other at the front slit, to be hemmed after pleating. The pleated skirt is mounted on the foundation skirt, secured at the waist only and down the front edges. Cut a fitted bodice in lining, the front in three pieces, to fasten on the left of the centre panel, which is covered with broché. Tack, fit, seam, and bone the lining, leaving only the side and shoulder seams. Cover with a horizontally pleated back and two fronts, the fronts cut with raw edge unlined revers (draped). Finish the seams. Two-piece fitted sleeve. Band collar of broché, supported on bones. Quantity of material required, 48-inch cloth, 8 yards; broché, 2 yards.

No. 354.—A Draped Skirt. (Page 12).

Five-gore skirt, to be cut in lining and cloth, with extra tablier in cloth, which is unlined and left raw edge and is draped across the skirt's tablier (cloth and lining of which are seamed and hemmed together). Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 348. Drape with a stretched back, a double right front, and a second draped right front (raw edge) of cloth. Drapery can be of soft silk. Two-piece tight sleeve, with added circular cuff, stiffened and faced with cloth. Band collar of draped cloth, supported by bones. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 7 yards.

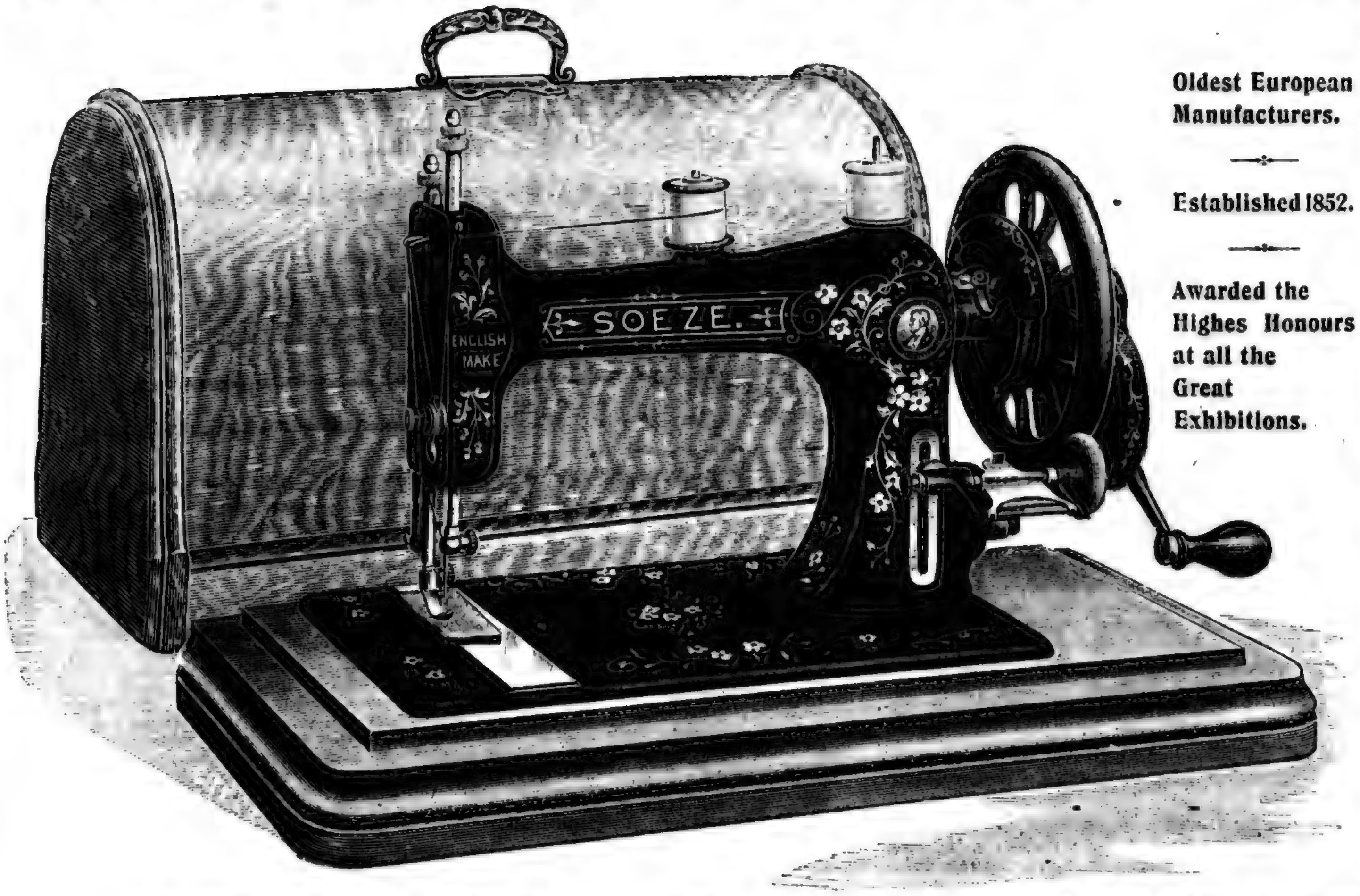
No. 355.—An Artistic Indoor Gown. (Page 12.)

Cut a Princess dress in lining with two backs, two side pieces on each side, and a three-piece front, to fasten on the left. The front sides are cut with revers. Cover the centre-front panel with a tablier and draped front of light silk. The panel is draped across the bust with chiffon, which passes through a buckle and falls in long ends on the skirt. All the other breadths are covered with mauve panne (or velveteen); face the revers with silk, embroidered with lace applications; two-piece velveteen collar, stiffened and wired, faced with silk; unlined band collar of silk, supported by bones; two-piece sleeve. Quantity of 24-inch velveteen required, 14 yards; 22-inch silk, 2½ yards; 45-inch chiffon, 1¼ yards.

Nos. 356 and 357.—A Nurse's Outfit. (Page 15.)

Five-gore skirt of navy woollen material, lined with sateen, pleated at the back. Fitted and boned bodice, with small point back and front, of the same material, neatly fitted, fastening with small flat buttons in front. One-

Bradbury's "SOEZE" Lockstitch Hand Machine.



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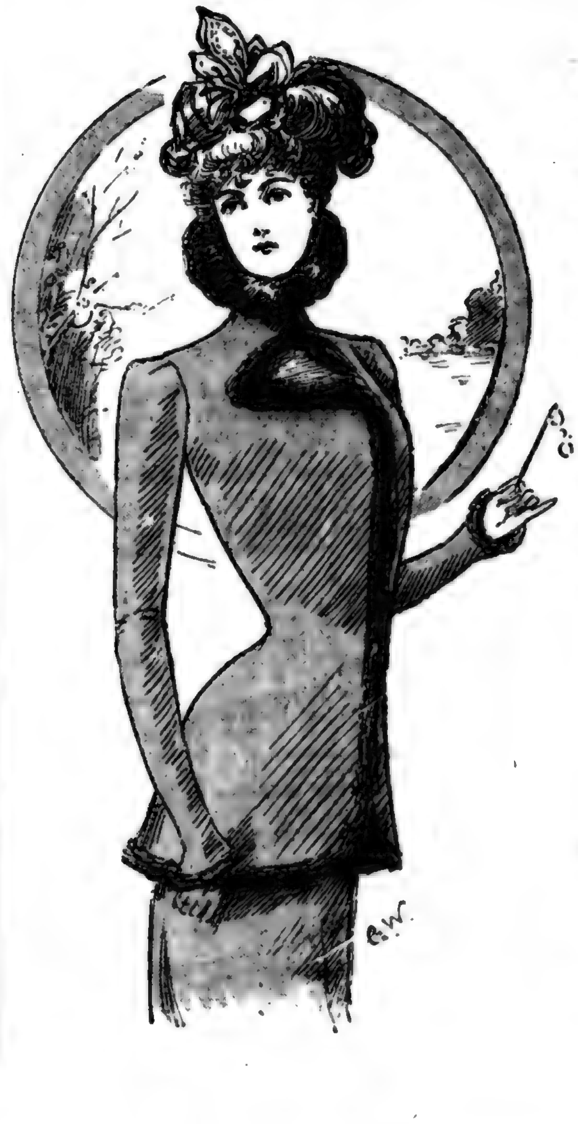

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THE GARRISON HAIR DYE.—An absolutely harmless hair dye in one solution. Easy in application, rapid, cleanly, and almost infallibly certain in effect. This is the Hair Dye *par excellence* for those who prefer a dye in one solution. Black or Brown, 3s. 6d. per case.

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CREME FROIDE AUX CONCOMBRES.—Prepared from the pulp of the ripe fruit, 3s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. For whitening and preserving the skin, and for the prevention of wrinkles and crowsfeet. Its constant use will counteract the ill-effects of exposure to sun and wind, and will retain the youthfulness of the complexion for many years.

"Crême Froide aux Concombres, as prepared by Mr. Mason, of Norwich, is the best agent for whitening and preserving the skin I know of."—Anna Kingsford, M.D.

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"Against the crowsfeet use Mason's Thick Emulsine. With respect to wrinkles, I have said again and again that nothing removes them so satisfactorily as the thick Emulsine. For flushing of the face and dryness of the skin use Mason's Thin Emulsine of Cucumbers. 'Cool as a cucumber' is, as you know, a comparison that has become a proverb, and with good reason. Mr. Mason has prepared two excellent emulsions of cucumber, thick and thin, which I have not seen equalled. To these he has now added a Crême Froide aux Concombres. As the responsibility for these formulas rests, in a large measure, with myself, you may feel sure I should not recommend them unless I had complete confidence in their excellence."—Anna Kingsford, M.D

JABORANDI HAIR TONIC.—Prepared from selected South American Jaborandi Leaves, containing the newly-discovered alkaloid Pilocarpine. Highly recommended by medical authority as a hitherto unapproachable stimulant to rapid growth of hair. Used not only to prevent the hair falling, but to stop advance of greyness and induce vigorous secretion of the natural colouring pigment. 3s. 6d., 10s. 6d.

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"For my own part, I am in the habit of recommending Mr. Mason's Stephanotis Face Powder, because I trust him, and know that he is moderate in his charges and honest in quality."—Anna Kingsford, M.D.

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SULPHUR SOAP (FOR THE HAIR).—The natural colour of the hair is due to an organic pigment, into the composition of which sulphur and iron largely enter. It is believed that in many cases grey hair is due solely to a deficiency in this natural secretion of sulphur. In such cases the sulphur may be applied to the hair glands by occasionally washing the hair and scalp with the above soap. It is most particularly recommended that in cases of incipient greyness this should be tried before artificial colour restorers are resorted to. It is also the best soap for cleansing the hair before applying any dye or colour restorer, as it greatly quickens and enhances their action. It is also of great service for washing the skin in many cases of eruption and skin diseases. 1s. 1d.

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FRECKLE CURE, THE NEW.—This is a preparation of great power for the entire removal of freckles, however obstinate. It is the prescription of one of our most eminent modern dermatologists, combined with the new Skin-fat which has been recently isolated from sheep's wool. A trial of it is urgently solicited. 4s. 6d.

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piece sleeve; linen collar and cuffs. Large apron (with bib), of white linen, covering the whole skirt. Circular cloak, seamed at the back, of navy paramatta. It is fitted with darts on the shoulders. It fastens with buttons and buttonholes, and has one stitched strap at the neck. It passes beneath the edge of the collar. The cloak is simply hemmed. The fronts and strap are interlined for strength. Quantity of 42-inch material required, for the dress 6 yards, for the cloak 5 yards.

Nos. 360 TO 363.—EARLY SPRING TAILOR GOWNS. (SEE PAGE 17.)

No. 360. Five-gore skirt cut in lining (sateen or mercerised cotton), finished with a shaped flounce of lined cloth (pattern is half the flounce). Two-piece tunic of the same cloth, smooth-fitting, seamed on each side, closing with hooks in the left seam. It is unlined, scalloped, edged with stitched velvet matching the cloth. Smart tailor coat; a seamless back, two side-pieces on each side, and two fronts shaped each with a dart. Line with silk or polonaise, seamed apart. Fit and stitch the coat apart from its lining. The basque edge is scalloped and trimmed with stitched velvet. The revers, cut with the fronts, are faced with stitched velvet. The fronts hook down the centre with tailor hooks and eyes, the tails inserted between the fronts and their cloth facings. Trim with metal buttons. Strap (stitched and lined) at the neck. Six-piece collar of cloth, faced with stitched velvet. Two-piece sleeve with bell cuff of cloth faced with stitched velvet. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 7 yards.

No. 361. Four-gore skirt, with small Watteau box-pleat at the back, of Uhlan satin cloth. Cut in cloth and lining, and cover the front with black velvet. Add an unlined raw edge circular flounce (pattern is half the flounce), taking care that the raw edge is just above the skirt edge, so that it does not fray. Cut a bodice lining with front in three pieces, to fasten on the left of the centre front panel. Tack, fit, seam, and bone the lining, leaving only the side and shoulder seams. Cover the top with a back (stretched), a narrow left front, and a double-breasted pouched right front of black velvet. Finish the seams. Cover the lower part with a pleated corselet of the Uhlan cloth. The bodice hooks on the left, the corselet being decorated with handsome metal buttons. Two-piece sleeve of velvet and lining. Velveteen can be used instead of velvet. Band-collar of velvet, lined with silk, supported by four bones. Quantity of 42-inch cloth required, 6 yards; 24-inch velveteen, 4 yards.

No. 362. Tailor bodice, to match a skirt—either a three-piece skirt, or a four-gore skirt, with small box-pleat at the back. A good model for wool repp. The bodice has a two-piece back, two side-pieces on each side, and two fronts, with two breast-darts each, the revers cut with the fronts. Make up repp and lining together; tack, fit, stitch, and bone with care. The lower edge is neatly stitched, faced with the repp or silk. The bodice fastens in front with hooks and eyes. The open neck is filled in with a lined added vest of striped silk. Face the revers and reefer collar with striped silk. Band collar (boned) of striped silk. Two-piece fitted sleeve. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 2 yards; 22-inch silk, 1½ yards.

No. 363. Three-gore skirt of Uhlan-blue cloth (lined with sateen), with small reversed box-pleat at the back; the lower edge is trimmed with a vandyked band of pale grey cloth, decorated with lines of blue and grey braid. Cut a fitted bodice lining with double-right front, to hook to the left front down the centre, and then cross to hook on the left shoulder and under the left arm; tack, fit, seam, and bone the bodice, leaving only the side and shoulder seams; cover the top with a two-piece yoke of braid-striped grey cloth. Cover the lower part with a stretched back and a slightly pouched front of blue cloth; trim with braid and metal buttons. Finish the seams. Two-piece coat sleeve of lining. The top is covered with braided grey cloth. Below is mounted the under and upper sleeve of blue cloth, headed by braid. Braided boned collar with high ear-pieces bent outwards, and faced with grey cloth. Quantity of 48-inch blue cloth required, 5 yards; grey cloth, 2 yards.

Nos. 366 TO 371.—COSTUMES FOR CHILDREN. (PAGE 22.)

No. 366. Velveteen shirt for a girl of fourteen. One-piece American yoke. One-piece back and two full fronts, the right front cut with a box-pleat, which holds the buttonholes. Line with sateen (cut on the shirt pattern); trim with lace. Band collar, covered with lace. Band cuff to the one-piece sleeve, covered with lace. Quantity of 24-inch velveteen required, 3¾ yards.

No. 367. Smart sacque coat of box-cloth, double-breasted, the fronts faced with cloth, and the revers faced with fur. It is neatly stitched, and is lined with flannel (cut on the coat pattern, but seamed apart.) One-piece reefer collar, faced with fur. The fur must be interlined with canvas to keep it in shape. Two-piece sleeve, with fur cuff; added pocket. Quantity of 54-inch cloth required for a girl of ten, 2½ yards.

Nos. 368 and 369. Sacque coat (No. 368) for a girl of twelve, to match a three-gore skirt (No. 369). Suitable for tweed, cloth, serge, &c. Face the fronts with the coat material. Line coat and skirt with flannel, seamed apart. The coat is neatly stitched. One-piece reefer collar, faced with velvet. Two-piece sleeve. Smart shirt (No. 369) of spotted flannel, with American yoke, cut and made on the pattern of No. 366, except that there are added revers—collar and cuffs of white flannel, embroidered with silk. Quantity of 42-inch material required, 4½ yards; 30-inch flannel for shirt, 3¾ yards.

No. 370. White corduroy coat for a boy or girl of two. It is pleated into a three-piece yoke. One-piece pelerine and one-piece sleeve, trimmed with mouflon. Line with white silk or sateen. White cloth hat. Quantity of 42-inch material required, 2 yards.

No. 371. White silk smock for a girl of six. In three breadths, smocked into a three-piece yoke, which buttons at the back. Tuck the skirt. Smocked one-piece sleeve. One-piece collar, edged with lace. Quantity of 22-inch silk required, 4 yards.

Nos. 372 TO 377.—SIX PRETTY SHIRTS. (PAGE 23.)

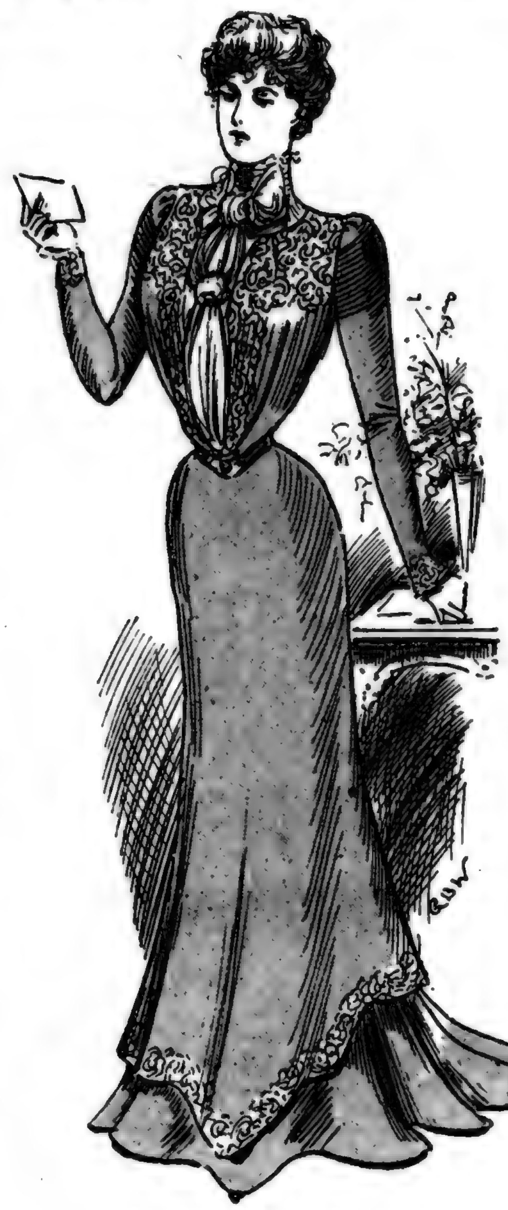
No. 372. Good style for black silk or velveteen. The back (one piece) is plain. There are two fronts (the right front cut with a box-pleat) trimmed with a trellis of narrow ruches of black chiffon or coloured ribbon. Jet buttons. Band collar, decorated with ruches, headed by a ruche-edged shaped frill of silk. Two-piece sleeve, trimmed with ruches, with added shaped frill. If the shirt is of velveteen, the frills must be lined. The whole shirt is lined with Roman sateen, cut on the shirt pattern. Quantity of 24-inch velveteen required, 4 yards.

No. 373. Good style for flannel. American one-piece yoke with pointed back. Into the yoke the one-piece back and the two fronts (the right cut with a box-pleat) are eased. Band collar. One-piece sleeve, gathered into a doubled cuff. Only the yoke, cuff and collar are lined. Quantity of 30-inch flannel required, 4 yards.

No. 374. Smart style for glacé silk. One-piece American yoke, into which the one-piece back is eased, and the two fronts (the right cut with a box-pleat) are frilled. Band collar, supported by bones. Collar, pleat and yoke are embroidered with silk, sequins, or ribbon. Sleeve like No. 373. Quantity of 22-inch silk required, 4½ yards.

No. 375. Smart semi-evening shirt of striped blue gauze; a back and two fronts, unlined, worn over a silk slip, to which is tacked (or pinned) a vest and collar of tucked white satin. The unstiffened revers (cut with the fronts) are faced with white satin, trimmed with blue ribbon ruches. Sleeve like No. 373, with cuff of ruche-trimmed satin. White satin ribbon belt with gold buckle. Quantity of 22-inch gauze required, 4 yards; 22-inch satin, 1 yard.

No. 376. Pretty style for flannel or cashmere. One-piece American yoke; into it is arranged the one-piece back and two tucked fronts; two-piece coat-sleeve tucked at the shoulder. Neck and wrist are finished with inch bands to hold the detachable collar and cuffs of linen. Only the yoke and bands are lined for flannel. Quantity of 30-inch material required, 4 yards.



No. 403. A TUNIC GOWN.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patters, Skirt, Tunic, or Bodice, each 6½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

No. 377. Pretty style for velveteen. One-piece back and two open fronts, filled in with a tucked silk plastron. Trim the velveteen fronts with lace. Line with sateen, cut on the shirt pattern after tucking. Sleeve like No. 372, the shoulder trimmed with tucked silk striped with lace. Band collar, trimmed with tucked silk and lace. Quantity of 24-inch velveteen required, 4 yards; 22-inch silk, 1 yard.

All these shirts, if lined, have the lining cut on the shirt pattern. All must be supplied with a runner at the waist, at the back, to hold the fullness in place.

Nos. 378 TO 394.—CAPES, FURS, AND COATS, FOR ALL OCCASIONS, FOR LADIES OF ALL AGES. (PAGES 24 AND 25.)

No. 378. Pretty box-cloth coat, with back, two side pieces on each side, and two double-breasted two-piece fronts. The coat is tacked, fitted, seamed, and pressed apart from the lining. The back and front seams are braided. The fronts are faced with cloth, braided on the pretty revers. The reefer collar (one piece) is also faced with braided cloth. Two-piece sleeve, braided at the wrist. The lining (silk or Italian cloth) is cut on the coat pattern, corrected to match the fitted coat, is seamed and pressed. Its outer edges are slip-stitched to the coat edges, which are turned over an inch band of muslin. Quantity of 54-inch cloth required, 2½ yards.

No. 379. Pretty draped cape, cut in satin-face cloth, in two pieces, cut circular, seamed at the back. The right front is draped by a few pleats, and crosses slightly to the left, mounted on the velvet drapery, which edges the four-piece yoke (cut in one with the collar). This yoke is of the cloth, either closely braided or coarsely embroidered. It is lined with silk, the collar part being stiffened with canvas and faced with velvet. Quantity of 48-inch material required, 4 yards.

No. 380.—Three-quarter length sacque coat, of box cloth or coating, with one-piece back, two double-breasted fronts (cut with the smart revers), and the new curved side-piece on each side. The seams are lapped. The fronts are faced with cloth, the revers faced with beaver fur. Turn up the edge all round and stitch down. Slits are cut in the left front. Pockets and lined cloth flaps are inserted. Three-piece collar of cloth, stiffened, faced with fur. The silk lining is cut on the coat pattern, but is seamed apart, the curved seam being felled after the lining is tacked in place. Two-piece sleeve, all fulness removed from the upper by four stitched darts. Quantity of 54-inch cloth required, 3 yards.

No. 381.—Pretty boa of mouflon fur.

No. 382.—Black fox boa, with head, brush, and claws.

No. 383. Red fox tie, with brush, head, and front claws.

No. 384. The new shape for sable muffs.

No. 385. Evening cape of mauve broché, lined with wadded white silk, edged with white coque. The pattern of the cape is in one piece (half the cape), fitted with shoulder darts. Slipstitch together the edges of lining and broché after the seams have been made. Silk being narrow, four gores are required to make up the cape. Six-piece collar of broché, stiffened, faced with broché, edged with coque. Quantity of 22-inch broché required, 4 yards.

No. 386. Matron's mantle of velours du nord, in two pieces, secured at the back, fitted with four shoulder darts. Edge with a shaped flounce of fur, headed by jet. The fur must be stiffened and lined with silk. Line the cape with silk. Four-piece collar of velvet, stiffened, faced with fur. Tie of chiffon. Quantity of velours du nord required, 2 yards.

No. 387. This is a similar cape of velours du nord, but the shaped flounce is of velvet and the collar is faced with velvet. Lace jabot. Quantity of velours du nord required, 3½ yards.

No. 388. Smart style for a cloth coat. This is cut and made much like No. 378, but the front centre pieces are prettily rounded, and the seams and edges are smartly stitched. The revers, cut with the front centres, are simply pointed and faced like the fronts with cloth. This coat, in good coating, lined with polonaise, stitched with silk, would be a nice early spring model. The fronts close invisibly, the buttonholes made in the right facing. Quantity of 56-inch covert coating required, 2 yards.

No. 389. Pretty covert coat with loose fronts (fastening invisibly with buttonholes made in the right facing) and neat fitting back. Slits are cut in the front basques, a pocket and lined flap being inserted. The coat is lined with polonaise (seamed apart from the coat), and is neatly stitched at the edges. Two-piece sleeve. Quantity of coating required, 2 yards.

No. 390. Pretty rain cloak of cravenetted shepherd's plaid. The mantle is in six pieces—two fronts, a side piece (skirt only) on each side, and two backs. There is no lining, the seams being bound open, the fronts and lower edge hemmed. It is finished with a narrow band collar, and has a waist ribbbon to support the back. Separate two-piece cape, seamed at the back, hemmed. It can be unlined, or lined with cheap silk. Band collar, stiffened, with one-piece turn-over faced with the material. Black bone buttons. The cape is supplied with stitched golf straps, so that it can be worn open. Quantity of 54-inch material required, 5½ yards.

No. 391. Neat tailor gown. Five-gore shaped skirt, with reversed box-pleat at the back, a good model for cloth or tweed. Line with mercerised lining. The opening and pocket are made in the back pleat. Smart, fitted, double-breasted coat, the fronts faced with cloth, the revers with fur. Line with polonaise (seamed apart). The collar is in six pieces, cut with the coat, the sides in one with an inserted shoulder strap between the coat's back and fronts. Stiffen the collar, and face with fur. Two-piece sleeve. Quantity of material required for the gown, 6½ yards.

No. 392. Elegant coat for a matron. It is a sacque—a back a side on each side and two open fronts filled in with the top of the shaped flounce (pattern is one piece, half the flounce); good model for handsome cloth. The seam joining coat and flounce is hidden by a cloth strap (tack on the cloth and cut to shape like No. 341), or else by rows of stitching. Fur edges the flounce and fronts, which close edge to edge. Line with silk, cut on the coat pattern, but seamed apart. Six-piece pelerine, cut with the collar, stiffened, edged with fur, the collar part faced with fur. Smart two-piece sleeve, cut with a large bell cuff, which is stiffened, edged with fur and faced with cloth. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 4 yards.

No. 393. Smart model for seal, plush, or sealskin. The six-piece collar is cut with the two fronts, two backs, and two shoulder pieces like No. 391. Face the fronts with plush. Stiffen the collar and face with plush. Make the buttonholes in the right facing. Two-piece sleeve. Line with satin. Quantity of 60-inch plush required, 2 yards.

No. 394. One-piece cape of face cloth, shaped with darts. Line with fur and edge the fronts with fur. Collar like No. 386. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 2 yards.

Nos. 395 to 397.—THREE BALL GOWNS. (PAGE 26.)

Cut a five-gore skirt of white satin, veiled with white spotted net (seamed apart). Edge with two net flounces, hemmed with a narrow ruche and headed by a guipure application. Cut a fitted satin bodice with double right front, so that it hooks to the left front in the centre, and crosses to hook under the left arm. Tack, fit, seam, and bone the bodice, leaving only the side seams. Drape with a tucked satin vest, and a back and front of net, the vest outlined with guipure. Tucks of satin head the one-piece guipure sleeve (unlined). Bow of turquoise velvet. The shoulder straps are of velvet and lace. Quantity of material required, 22-inch satin, 12 yards; net (27 inches), 12 yards.

No. 396. Skirt of pink satin and pink net. Cut and made like No. 395, trimmed with waved lines of ruches (made of pink ribbon), edged with ribbon-edged net flounces. Cut a satin bodice with front in three pieces, to fasten on the left of the centre panel. Tack, fit, seam, and bone the bodice, leaving only the side seams. Drape with three pieces of net, the double right front covered with ribbon ruches. Berthe of pink net, edged with a frill, decorated with red roses.

SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA—The Queen of Cocoas.
SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA—The Queen of Cocoas.
SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA—The Queen of Cocoas.

There are no sleeves. Quantity of material required, satin, 12 yards; 27-inch net, 14 yards.

No. 397. Trained five-gore skirt of blue satin, the breadths eked out with added corners. Line with silk or muslin; hem the lower edge. Trim with twists of blue crape. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 396. Drape with a back, a left front and panelled right front of satin. Finish the seams. Graceful fichu, forming berthe sleeves, and sash drapery of blue crape edged with silk fringe. Quantity of 22-inch satin required, 14 yards.

Nos 398 TO 400.—A TRIO OF WALKING GOWNS. (PAGE 27.)

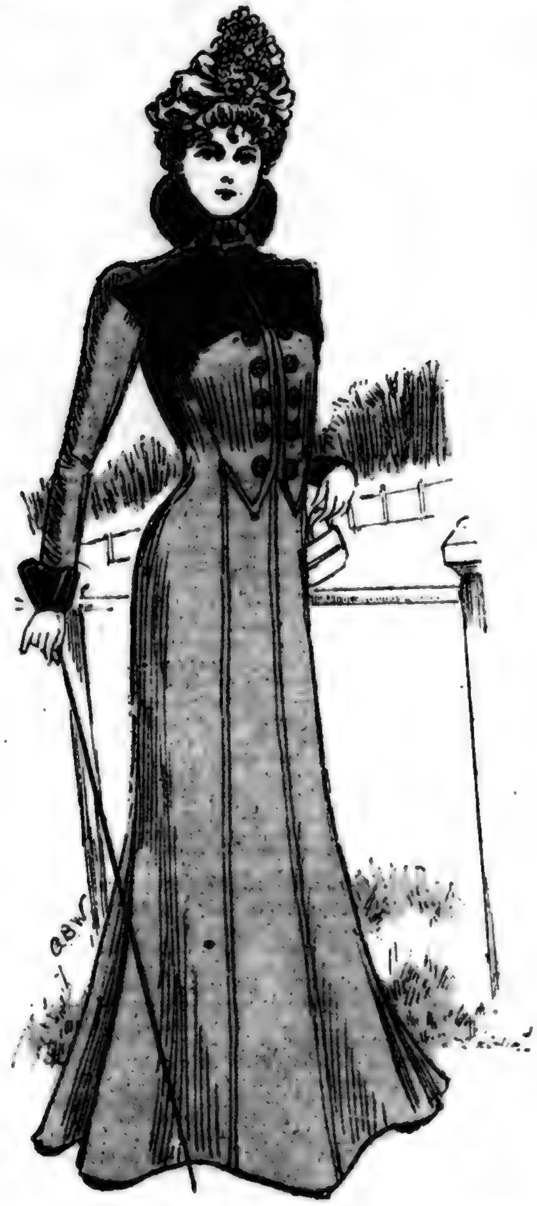
No. 398. Three-gore skirt of khaki-coloured cloth, lined with sateen, trimmed with shaped bands of cloth mounted on muslin and piped with white satin. The first row is headed by a piping. Bolero, with back and two rounded fronts of cloth, decorated with rows of piping. Silk cord can replace the pipings. Piped sleeves (two pieces); to be worn over any front with collar. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 6 yards.

No. 399. Princess gown of grey satin cloth, the lining cut like No. 349, only it fastens under the arm and on the left shoulder instead of on the left of the front panel. Cover each breadth with cloth. The top is covered with a two-piece yoke of white satin veiled with lace. Make up material and lining together, and bone with care. Trim with bands of fur and knotted silk fringe. Band collar of lace and satin supported by bones. Two-piece sleeve, trimmed with narrow fur. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 6½ yards; satin, 1¼ yards.

No. 400. Shaped seven-gore skirt of red cloth, with double tablier strapped across to the right with a large ornamental button. Line with silk or mercerised lining; hem the skirt; decorate with black satin ruches used as a sort of embroidery. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Drape with a back and two embroidered fronts of cloth, the fronts turned back in revers (covered with lace) to show a plastron of lace over satin mounted on the lining. Finish the seams. Collar like No. 399. Sleeve like No. 399, untrimmed. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 7 yards.

No. 401.—AN INDOOR GOWN. (PAGE 31.)

Good model for satin, velveteen, or rich cloth. Seven-gore shaped skirt, the lower part covered with coarse guipure applied to fit the cloth breadths. Line with silk or mercerised lining. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Cover the centre panel with chiffon over white silk. Drape the rest with a back, two side pieces, and two fronts of the velveteen, the fronts hooking in the centre beneath the lace bow. Finish the seams. Lace collar. Band collar of satin and draped chiffon, supported by bones. Two-piece sleeve, with added circular cuff, faced with silk. Quantity of 24-inch velveteen required, 14 yards.



No. 404. PELISSE FOR A YOUNG MATRON.

For Descriptions see pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 1s. 0½d., post free, of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

No. 402.—A GROUP OF PRETTY MUFFS. (PAGE 32).

Fig. 1 shows a muff of green panne, adorned with a fringed bow of green satin ribbon and a bunch of mauve and white clematis. The lining is of white satin, and a frill of ivory lace peeps out at either side. The frill should be made of panne and lined with panne or satin, trimmed at the edge with three rows of machine-stitching in pale green silk. About 1½ yards velvet and ¾ yard of ivory satin, the same of lace, and 1 yard of satin ribbon are needed to construct this muff. There should be a toque to match of stitched panne, with a posy of clematis and a chou of black tulle run with green filoselle, and a black paradise plume, and both should be worn with a black gown, or a black coat and skirt, with revers of green panne.

Fig. 2 depicts a pretty concoction of turquoise velvet, white satin, and turquoise kilted chiffon frills, and ruches set off by a spray of Parma violets. Worn with a grey dress and a hat of grey-stitched cloth, with turquoise velvet rosettes and violets, and you have a dainty toilette for a winter wedding. Quantity of cross-cut velvet required, 1 yard.

Fig. 3 is a handsome solid article, suitable for a matron. Black velvet and sable and a bow of black satin are used. Quantity of velvet required, ¾ yard.

Fig. 4 shows a plain velvet muff, draped with a large bow of Oriental satin. The ends are fringed and drawn through a handsome buckle. Quantity of velvet required, 1 yard.

Fig. 5 is of chinchilla, with a wide frill of grey velvet, lined with pink and mauve brocade. The bow is of grey velvet. Quantity of cross-cut velvet required, ¾ yard.

No. 403.—A TUNIC GOWN. (PAGE 35.)

Five-gore skirt, cut in lining, the lower part covered with cloth. Three-piece tunic, fastening with hooks at the side, unlined, hemmed beneath the band of sequin lace. A good model for light satin cloth. Put the pocket in the foundation skirt. Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Cover the front panel with white silk. Drape with a back and two lace-trimmed open fronts of cloth. Finish the seams. Band collar of silk covered with a chiffon tie, which is draped on the front panel. Two-piece sleeve, tucked at the shoulder, the bell wrist trimmed with lace. Lace collar in one with the front edges. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required 7 yards.

No. 404.—PELISSE FOR A YOUNG MATRON. (PAGE 36).

Such a wrap is used as a visiting dress, with no gown beneath in the warmer weather. It is cut with two backs, a side piece on each side, and two 2-piece fronts. A good model for satin cloth, lined with silk, cut on the coat pattern, but seamed apart. There are added short fronts, which help to disguise the figure, the revers being cut with these fronts, faced with velvet. 4-piece collar, stiffened, faced with velvet. Rich metal buttons; lapped seams front and back; 2-piece sleeve, with stiffened velvet cuff. Quantity of 54-inch coating required, 6 yards.

Nos. 407 AND 408.—STYLES FOR MATRONS. (PAGE 40.)

No. 407. Good style for silk. Eight-gore skirt, with double pleat at the back, trimmed with black lace, which simulates a draped tunic, the lace starting on the left at the side breadth from a rosette of chiffon. Line with mercerised moire lining (black or coloured). Fitted bodice, pointed at the back, with three-piece front, fastening on the left of the centre panel beneath the fichu (which hooks across the fastenings). Make up silk and lining together, and bone with care. Fichu of chiffon and lace (one piece). Two-piece sleeve, finished with a pleating of chiffon. Band collar of silk, covered with a white chiffon tie. Quantity of 22-inch silk required, 14 yards.

No. 408. Five-gore shaped skirt. A good model for cloth. Line with mercerised cotton. Smart long coat, cut very circular as to back and fronts, so that the long basques flute. Line with silk, seamed apart. Face fronts and revers with fur. Two-piece sleeve with fur cuff. Four-piece collar, stiffened, faced with fur. The fronts fasten with hooks and eyes concealed in the fur. Quantity of 48-inch cloth required, 7 yards.

No. 409.—A NEW BODICE. (PAGE 41).

Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 348. Drape with a stretched back and slightly draped front of cashmere, the front decorated with diagonal lines and bows of velvet baby ribbon. Finish the seams. Two-piece bell sleeve, the wrist faced with silk edged with velvet ribbon. Ribbon-trimmed band collar, supported by bones. Quantity of 48-inch material required, 2 yards.

No. 410.—PETTICOAT FOR THE NEW PLEATED SKIRTS. (PAGE 45).

Five-gore petticoat, short, finished with a wide shaped flounce (pattern in one piece, half the flounce). Line the top with flannel, the flounce with muslin. Trim with a pleating of silk or chiffon, striped with lace insertion. Quantity of 22-inch silk required for the petticoat (without pleating), 8 yards.

No. 411.—A DRAPED BODICE. (PAGE 46).

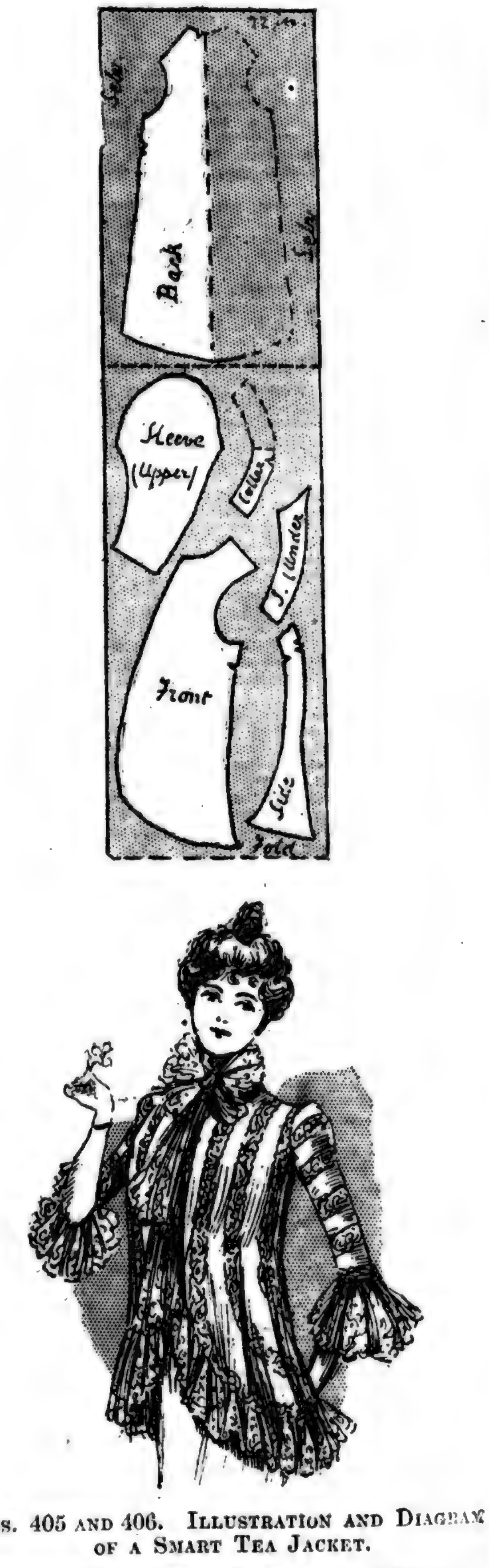
Cut and make a bodice lining like No. 353. Cover the top of the centre panel with a plastron of lace over satin. Veil with a black and two crossed fronts of soft woollen material or silk, back and fronts cut with epaulets. Stiffen the epaulets. Finish the seams. Band collar of lace over silk, supported by bones. Decorate the crossed fronts with ribbon straps, imitating a collar. Edge the epaulets with velvet. Fitted two-piece sleeve, sewn into the lining armhole, beneath the stiffened epaulets. Quantity of 48-inch material required, 2 yards.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CUT-OUT PAPER PATTERN PRESENTED WITH THIS NUMBER.

Nos. 405 AND 406.—A SMART TEA JACKET. (PAGE 36).

The pattern is in six pieces—half the back, one side-piece, one front, one sleeve (the upper and under), half the collar. The diagram (No. 405) shows the pattern pieces laid on 4 yards of 22-inch silk, which is double between the dotted lines, so that the sleeve, front and side-piece are each cut in duplicate; spaces are marked off for the missing halves of collar and back, each of which should be cut in a single piece. The duplicate of the collar can serve for a lining. The jacket is lined with nun's veiling of the silk colour, cut on the jacket pattern, and seamed up together. When the silk pieces are seamed together, they are striped with bands of guipure insertion, following the line of the jacket's front edges. The back, fronts and sides are tacked according to the notches. A frill of lace edges the jacket and forms a jabot in front, where the jacket closes in front with hooks and eyes. The band collar, unstiffened, is striped with lace. When the outer seam of the sleeve is made, the sleeve is decorated with bands of insertion; sew the inner seam, and edge the sleeve with a lace frill. Lace bow at the neck.

For Description of the Coloured Fashion Plate, see Page 11.



NOS. 405 AND 406. ILLUSTRATION AND DIAGRAM OF A SMART TEA JACKET.

THE CUT-OUT PAPER PATTERN IS PRESENTED WITH THIS NUMBER.

For Description see this page.

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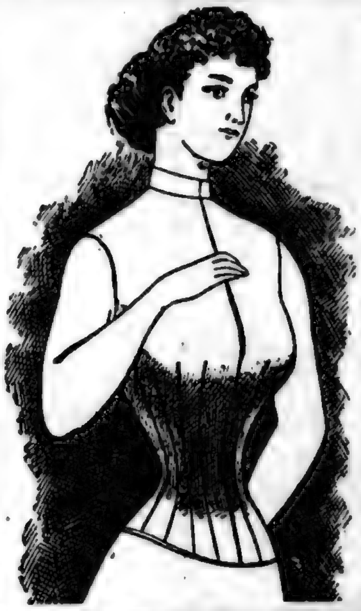

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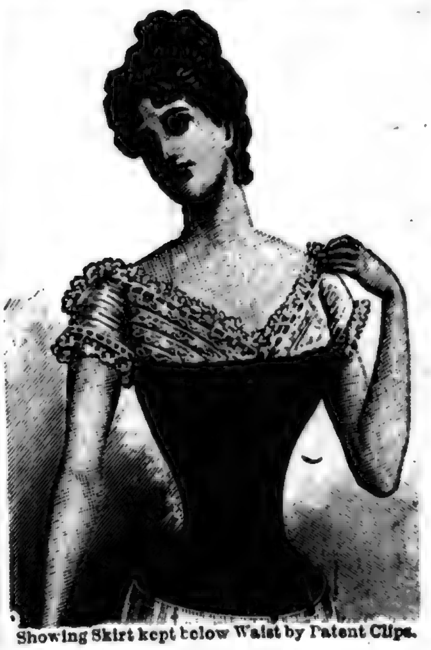

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Fashionable dark tweed DRESS, pretty bodice, 26, 36, 41; perfect condition, 15s. 6d. M287

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£4 4s. dainty Pale Cloth Paris Tailor COSTUME, braided, 43-23; new, 39s. 6d. M299

Smart, flounced, pointed, Paris Velvet CAPE; high, stylish collar; £2 2s.; 25s. 6d. Blouses. M300.

Lady wishes to SELL magazines, papers, &c., in good condition, very cheap. M301

STAMPS.—Collector will pay good price for collection of foreign stamps. Approval. M302

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New green cloth SKIRT; length, 37 inches. CAPE to match, lined yellow silk, trimmed black Thibet goat all round. Also green velvet BLOUSE. Price, 22s. 6d. lot or separate. M318

Newest PATCHWORK PIECES silks, velvets, 100 larger or 200 smaller, 1s. 2d.; sent free.—Campbell, New Street, Matlock Bank. M319

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CYCBING COSTUME wanted (37, 25, 42), dark grey or navy preferred. M324

Artistic PASTEL PORTRAITS from photograph, 7s. 6d. Good likeness guaranteed. Send colouring of hair, eyes, &c., with Postal Order. M325

Useful PARCEL, only 2s. 6d., free. Other useful things. M326

Green cloth wing-sleeved BOLERO, lined silk, new, 4s. 6d., cost double. M327

Pet dogs' COLLARS, 1s. 4d., 2d. for War Fund.—Allen, 45, Manor Road, Folkestone. M328

Experienced stylish Dressmaker makes up Ladies' own materials from 12s. 6d.; artistic remodeller; speciality, evening work; moderate charges; unsolicited testimonials.—Madam, 57, Dulwich Road, S.E. M329

Wanted, "THERE'S NO ONE THERE," sequel song to "Who's that Tapping at the Garden Gate?" Both out of print now. M330

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Officer's Daughter offers another refined HOME! favourite coast (Devonshire), 25s.; 30s. society. M333

BEDROOM, with use of SITTING, for a Lady, nine miles from London. Small, quiet, family, close to station. M334

Handkerchiefs Embroidered in Old English, 1d. per letter; specimen sent. M335

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Brown OVERCOATS, leather LEGGINGS, CAP, COLLARS, boy 9, 5s. 6d.; all goods free. M337

CUTTINGS, post free; 25 named roses, 6d.; 25 Mrs. Sinkins pink, 6d; 50 level rooted trails ivy, 1s. 3d. M338

For sale, LADIES' CYCLE (Buckingham and Adams); perfect order. Cost £14 cash, take £4.—111, Queen's Road, Peckham. M339

MINIATURES.—Lady artist paints high-class miniatures on ivory from 21s. No payment required if miniature not satisfactory. M340

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Ladies' elastic CORSET LACES, 36 inch long, 8d. per dozen, carriage paid.—J. Ward, 88, Rosebank Street, Dundee. M342

Girl's Juvenile SAFETY; Beeston Tyres; prettily gold lined, nearly new; cost £12; price, with accessories, £7 15s. M343

Gent's Full ROADSTER, enamelled green and gold-lined, 24-inch frame, owner too tall for machine; price, with lamp and bell, £7 15s. M344

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Lady's Olympic SAFETY for SALE, in excellent condition, Clincher tyres; complete with lamp, cyclometer, &c., for £6 10s. M346

Lady would like to correspond with another of similar figure, who has stylish articles of best quality to dispose of; waist 24, front skirt 43, corsets 22, boots 5 or 6. M347

Lady willing to receive few CHILDREN, holiday or permanently. Country. Good references. M348

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Competitors must send their filled-in forms not later than THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, to the "COMPETITION EDITOR," MYRA'S JOURNAL OFFICE, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C. If the envelopes are incorrectly addressed, such Competitors may lose their chances of winning a Prize.

Each Competitor can fill in as many Forms as she likes. Papers of Competitors who do not use the Forms are cancelled.

OMITTED WORDS COMPETITION.

Competitors are required to fill in the fourteen missing words from the following text:—

The great .... in training the infant mind is to .... a happy mixture of obedience and courage. Many a mother fears to .... her boy's .... turbulence, lest she should either .... his spirit or encourage a .... concealment of faults committed. What is the result of her .... ? The young ...., who certainly does not .... obedience, can hardly be said to .... courage, seeing that very soon he becomes the .... of the home, the .... of its weaker members, who are .... to submit to his ....

Name (Mrs. or Miss)..

Address (in full)..

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N.B.—No attempt will be considered unless made on this form.

FOR THE RESULT OF THE DECEMBER COMPETITION, see Page 8.

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MEASUREMENT FORM.

TIE A CORD AROUND THE WAIST TIGHTLY.

SIZE OF WAIST ....
SIZE OF BUST ....
SIZE ACROSS CHEST between the Sleeves ....
SIZE ACROSS BUST from bottom of armhole at side seam ....
SIZE ACROSS BACK between the Sleeves ....
LENGTH OF BACK from bottom of Collar to Waist line ....
LONG FRONT, from Centre of Collar at Back, over shoulder to Waist line front ....
SHORT FRONT, from bottom Collar in front of Waist line ....
LENGTH OF SHOULDER ....
LENGTH UNDER ARM—Armhole to Waist line ....
ROUND NECK ....
SIZE ROUND SHOULDERS ....
SIZE ROUND HIPS, 6 inches below Waist ....

SLEEVE.

SIZE ROUND WRIST ....
SIZE ROUND ELBOW (bent) ....
LENGTH OF SHOULDER TO ELBOW ....
LENGTH OF ELBOW TO WRIST ....
INSIDE LENGTH ....
SIZE OF ARMHOLE ....

SKIRT.

FRONT from Waist ....
BACK from Waist ....
SIDE from Waist ....
SIZE OF WAIST ....
ROUND HIPS, 6 inches below Waist ....

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Cookery and Household Management.

Miss Richardson will be glad to answer in our Correspondence Columns any queries on Cookery and Household Management. See "Rules for Correspondents," p. 45. Letters to be addressed to Miss Richardson, "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C. Queries must be accompanied by the Correspondence Coupon, cut out of this paper. No notice will be taken of letters sent without this coupon, and answers by post can only be sent in very urgent cases.

ECONOMICAL SOUPS.

If the instructions for making stock, given in this *Journal* of last month, are carefully followed, there should be no difficulty in making a variety of soups in a short space of time; and, indeed, in weather such as the present there are few people who would not appreciate hot soup, nicely made, whether as a prelude for lunch or dinner. But there is an art in soup-making, as in most things.

From point of view of economy, vegetable soups are, perhaps, the cheapest; but plenty of time must be allowed, as the vegetables must simmer until quite tender, so as to admit of passing them through a sieve. If no further thickening is required other than that provided by the vegetables themselves, the soup is designated a *purée*; if, however, further thickening is desired, either flour, sago, oatmeal, barley, &c., or some other starchy substance is added, but whatever is used must be allowed to cook thoroughly, never for less than five minutes, or one of two things will happen, either there will be a taste as of uncooked starch or the thickening will not be properly diffused throughout the liquid. If flour is used it should be mixed in a basin with a little water or stock, first of all, to a smooth paste, and after adding it to the soup continue to stir until thoroughly cooked to avoid lumps.

If sago, macaroni, or barley, &c., is used instead, the soup must be boiling at the time, and it should be lightly shaken in by degrees, as the grains must be kept apart.

Care must be given to the flavouring of soups, and this will not be a difficult matter to those who are fortunate enough to possess a garden. When herbs are plentiful they should be picked and dried, and then they can be bottled. A bottle of mixed herbs costs 5d., which would last for two or three months, as a saltspoonful of herbs will be found sufficient to flavour gravies or sauces. It is a good plan to tie up the herbs in a piece of muslin; they can then be easily removed from the soup.

In vegetable soups the addition of a little fat will be found an improvement; it is a good plan to melt some dripping in a saucepan and shake the vegetables in it for about five minutes, the fat will then be absorbed almost entirely and will not subsequently rise to the top. It is essential that the flavour of the vegetables used should be retained as far as possible in the soup and therefore they must not be cooked for an indefinite period.

In making fish soups it is advisable to use either skate, ling, or hake; if fish trimmings are bought from the fishmonger, it is necessary to wash them thoroughly. A pound of fish should be allowed to a quart of water.

Soups made from fresh meat naturally come more expensive; shin of beef is perhaps the most advantageous part to buy, and certainly the most economical in the long run; but as I am only giving recipes which will not cost more than 1½d. or 2d. per pint, soups made from fresh meat must be excluded from the category.

It is not only necessary for soups to taste well, but they should also look inviting, and unfortunately vegetable soups are sometimes conspicuous for their nondescript colour, in which case colouring is admissible. For fivepence a small bottle of green colouring may be bought at any grocer's, and a few drops of this effect a wondrous change in the aspect of a dingy soup; and, as the green substance is prepared from spinach or parsley, it is quite harmless, and can be made at home if preferred.

Fish Soup. (Cost 4d. per quart.):—

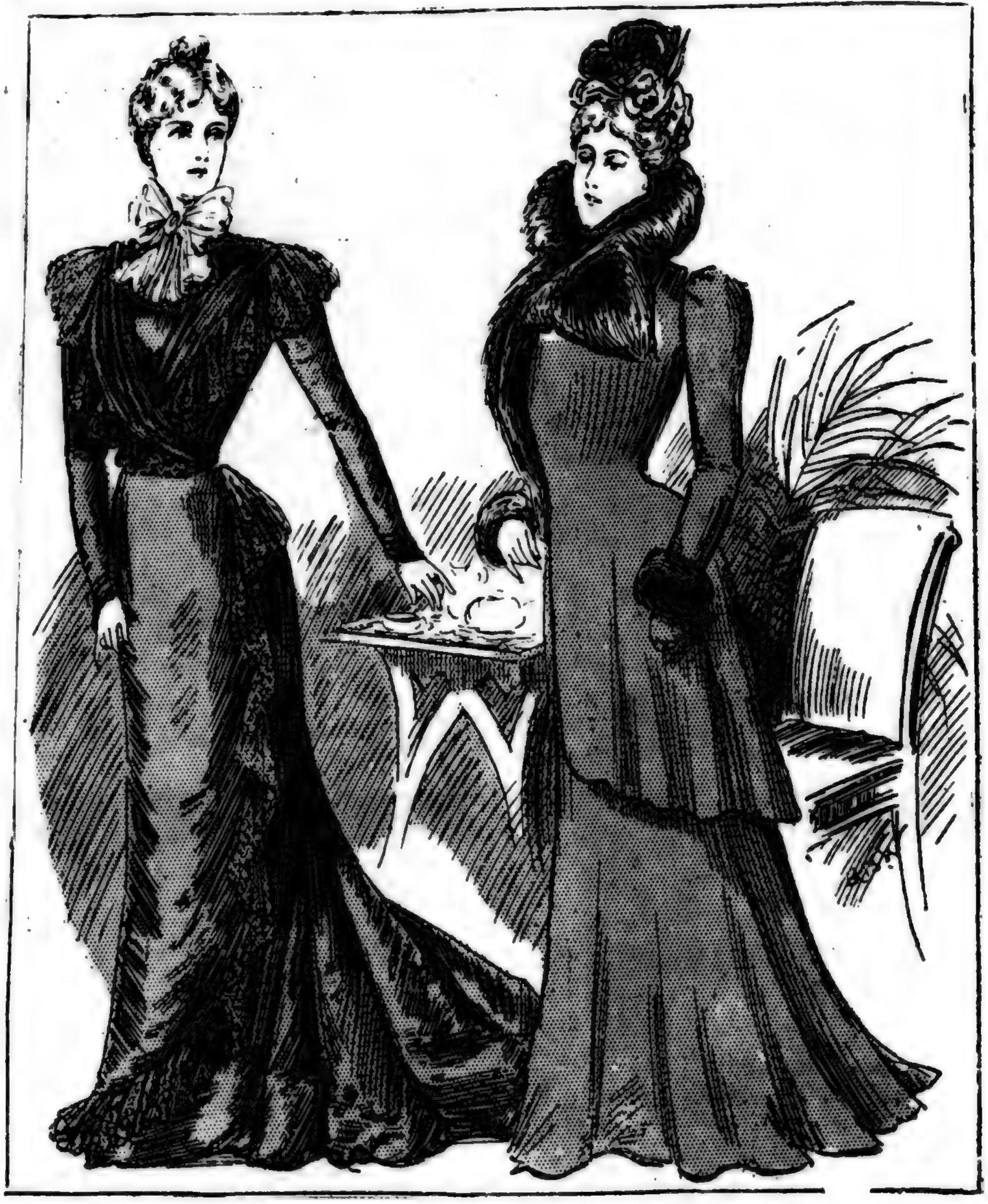
1lb hake
1 quart c. water
Leek or onion
1 desertspoonful flour
½ teaspoonful of herbs
2 sticks of celery
1 pint of milk
½oz butter

Boil the fish in the water after cutting it up into small pieces. Then add the vegetables, herbs, and seasoning. Allow all to simmer for an hour. Mix the flour with the milk and butter, and then pour into the soup, stirring well. Strain into a tureen.

Lentil Soup. (Cost, 1½d. per quart)—

½lb Split Lentils
1 oz Dripping
1 Quart of Water
½ Teaspoonful of Herbs
Pepper and Salt
Carrot and Onion

Wash the lentils in cold water, put them with dripping into a saucepan for five minutes. Add the water, sliced carrot and onion and seasoning. After allowing them to simmer for two hours, pass through a seive and allow it to boil again. Lentil soup is much improved by the addition of a teaspoonful of curry powder; this should be put in with the water. Serve with fried croûtons.



Nos. 407 and 408. Styles for Matrons.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, Skirts, Bodice, or Coat, each 6½d., *post free, of* Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street,* W.

Potato Soup. (Cost 2½d. per quart).

1lb Potatoes
2 Small onions
1 Tablespoonful of sago
1oz Dripping
Pepper and salt
1½pts water or stock
½pt milk

Slice the potatoes and onions and heat them in the saucepan, with the dripping, for five minutes. Add the water, and simmer for an hour, with seasoning. Rub through a wire sieve, and return to the saucepan; put in the sago and boil for ten minutes, stirring now and then. Add the milk and let it simmer for five minutes.

Tomato Soup.—Cost, 4d. per quart.

¾lb tomatoes
1 pint stock and water
½ dozen peppercorns
Pepper and salt
1 stick of celery
Parsley and bayleaf
1 tablespoonful of flour
1oz dripping, 1 onion

Stew the tomatoes gently in the stock with parsley, bayleaf, celery, and seasoning. Fry the onion separately in the dripping, add the flour and make into a sauce with a little stock from the pan, then pour into the soup, stirring well. Let it cook well, and pass through a sieve, heat again and serve with fried bread cut in squares.

When tomatoes are plentiful this is a very economical recipe. As a variation 1½ pints of water and ½ pint of milk may be added to the same amount of tomatoes.

Semolina Soup. (Cost 2½d. per quart.)—

2 tablespoonfuls of sago
½ pint of milk
4 onions
1 quart of stock
Pepper and salt

Peel and chop the onion and put into the stock with seasoning. When it boils shake in the semolina; allow it to cook for ten minutes, then add the milk. Bring it nearly to boiling point again, and then serve immediately.

Vegetable Soup. (Cost 3½d. per quart.)—

2 carrots
2 leeks
2 turnips
2 sticks of celery
2oz butter
½ pint of milk
1oz flour
Pepper and salt
1½ pints of water

Melt the butter in a saucepan, add the vegetables when shredded; then add the water and boil for a quarter of an hour; then let them simmer for an hour. Strain carefully. When boiling again add the flour, and milk previously mixed together; stir carefully for five minutes, and serve hot. Colour green if necessary.

Birds' Nests.—Boil four eggs for ten minutes, take off the shells and cover with veal stuffing, which may be worked smoothly with the hand. Fry in a stewpan with dripping or butter. When browned they can be sent to table, served on paper, or else may be covered with thick gravy. An economical method of making veal stuffing is the following:—Chop half an ounce of suet, add breadcrumbs, mixed herbs, pepper, and salt, and bind it with either milk, dripping, or eggs.

Plain boiled eggs should never be sent to table unless quite new laid. The best method of cooking them is to put them into boiling water, and allow them to stand by the fire for ten minutes.

Nursery Hints.

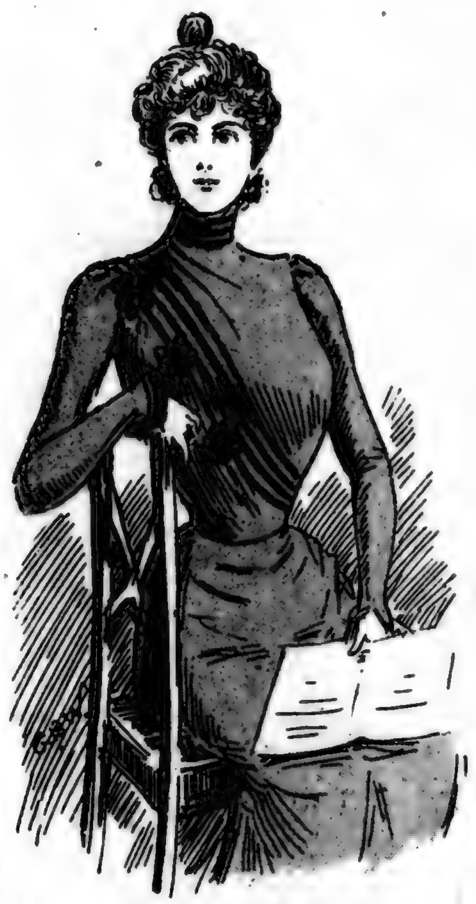
By Mrs. W. E. GORDON.

Mrs. W. E. Gordon will be glad to answer any questions on Nursery Management. (See Rules, p. 45.) Letters to be addressed to Mrs. Gordon, "Myra's Journal" Offices, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

V.—BABY'S MORALS.

ONE often hears the question asked, how early should a baby's education begin? And I have no hesitation in saying the earlier the better, both for the baby and its nurse. A baby under a month old has no consciousness of right and wrong; but it has a strong sense of doing what it is used to do, and if it is accustomed to be laid down in its cot without nursing or rocking, it will not occur to it to require these sedatives. Monthly nurses often spoil babies terribly. They know that their reign is short, and it is easier for them to humour the baby by nursing it and walking it about than to get it into good ways at once, and so the education undertaken by mother or nurse afterwards is a more serious affair than it need be. Monthly nurses are, of course, autocrats, and must be left pretty much to carry out their own will, but a mother can and should insist on her baby sleeping in its own cot from the beginning. It is far better for the child.

As soon as the monthly nurse goes, the rule should be strictly adhered to that the baby is to be laid down to sleep whether by day or night, and left to itself. Of course, the nurse should be at hand, for a little baby must never be left alone, but it must not be rocked or nursed to sleep. It will take to it quite naturally at this early age. If it is necessary to start the rule later on, there may be a little difficulty: the baby may scream for two or three nights; but it will soon give in, and it is a victory worth winning. I have seen a nursery where each child has to have some one with it till it falls asleep. One pities the nurse, and yet it is her own fault, for except in case of illness no properly trained child will dream of expecting such a thing.



No. 409. A NEW BODICE.

For Descriptions see Pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 6½d., post free of MADAME MYRA, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Some mothers have a horror of their children crying. Doctors in these days tell us that this is a great mistake. Of course there may be cases where it is not desirable that a baby should "scream its inside out," as the nurses say, but there is no doubt that a good healthy cry clears and strengthens the lungs; and often acts besides as a safety-vent to the brain. Little babies *must* cry if their lungs are to be developed; indeed I have known one very placid and contented infant who, by the doctor's orders, had to be made to cry at his evening bath if he had not had one good roar in the day. Babies know a great deal more than we give them credit for, and one thing they very soon learn is the meaning of "no" The sooner they understand that "no" is final, the happier for them, and the less need there will be later of the terrible process known as "breaking their spirits." Poor little babies should not have their spirits broken; but they should have them carefully trained, and gentle firmness in early days will do a great deal towards it.

Every nurse knows that one of the most necessary things to teach a baby is to amuse itself. Where there is only one baby and a young nurse, she often, from the love of playing with it, teaches it to expect her to be constantly ready to amuse it. But when the nursery fills up, it is a very different thing. A baby who is old enough to sit up will be happy for a long time with a few toys on the floor or in its chair. The first intelligent game a baby plays is to move things about from one place to another, and two boxes and a few bricks will provide absorbing occupation. It is surprising, too, how early a little wooden tea-set will give joy to a small person.

But the main point to which I return is that with a baby, whatever you want it to do you must accustom it to do it. They are very impressionable, and habit is very easily implanted, only they must be treated consistently. What babies think about us we cannot tell; but I am sure they secretly have a very poor opinion of the big person who says "yes" one day and "no" another, as the mood prompts.

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A New Invention to keep the feet warm and dry yet allowing perfect ventilation
18 pairs post free for 1/-
State size required.
A boon for tender & tired feet
OROCO M'F'G. Co.
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WILL
SUIT YOU
DOWN TO THE GROUND.
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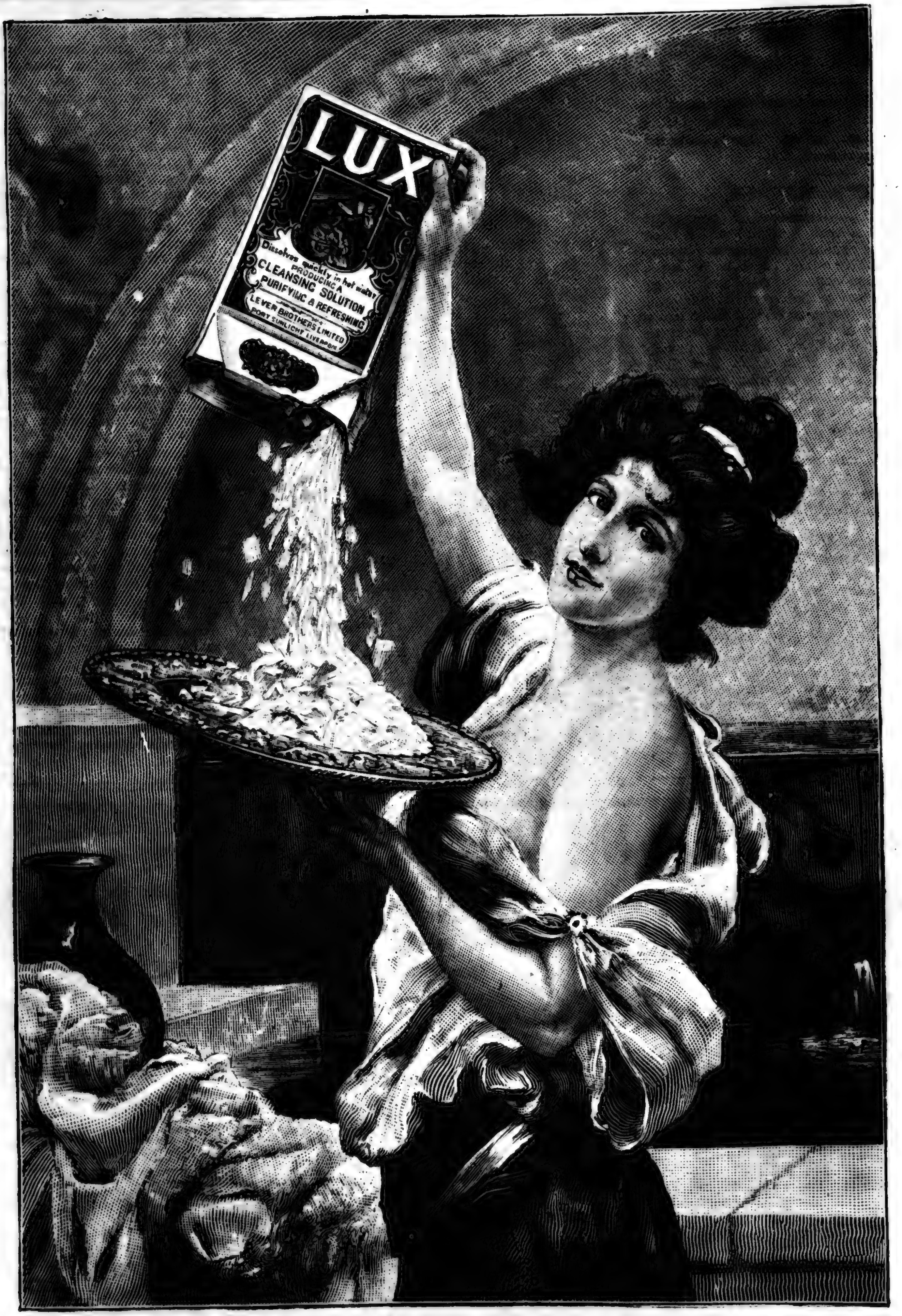
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CLEANSING SOLUTION
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Manufactured by the Proprietors of SUNLIGHT SOAP.

LEVER BROTHERS, LIMITED,
Port Sunlight, Cheshire.

Soapmakers to Her Majesty THE QUEEN.

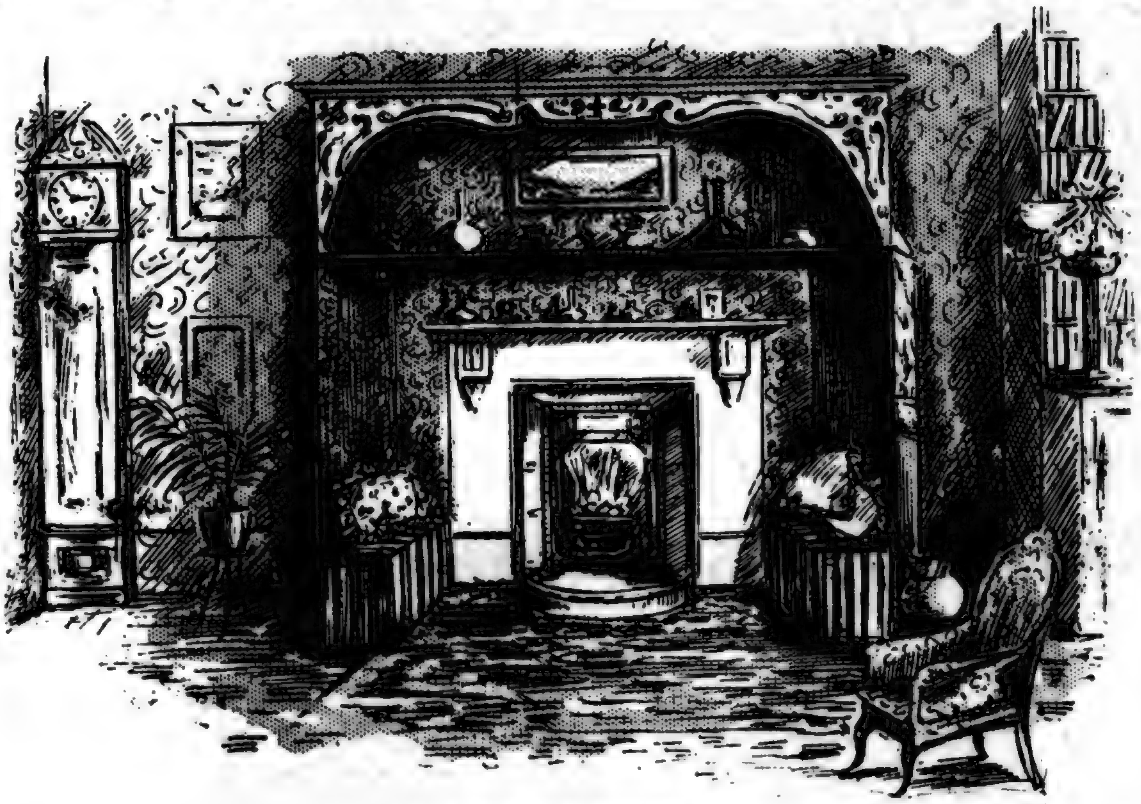
Home Decoration.

COSY FIRESIDE SEATS.

PEOPLE in houses rarely realise the comfort of a box-room until they remove to a flat. It is quite an art to devise a means of using up the boxes as really comfortable seats. The tops must be nicely padded and covered with tapestry, or some such fabric, which, to give to the finished seat the true "professional" appearance, should be buttoned down, bolster fashion. The chief difficulty with regard to making dress-boxes serve the purpose of cosy seats is that they are, when the stuffing of horsehair is added to the top, generally too high to be exactly comfortable. And without the horsehair the boxes could not, of course, with any degree of satisfaction be regarded as seats. So-called "cosy" corners are often miserably uncomfortable.

A pretty way of arranging a "recessed" fireplace and overmantel, combined with a couple of "cosy" seats, is illustrated in my sketch to-day, and could be carried out very well in a flat, the seats being devised with a view to economising space.

The first thing to be done in working out the scheme is to cover in the ordinary mantelpiece with white enamelled wood, dark oak, or wood stained green, according to how the surrounding fitments are coloured. Aspinall's celebrated enamels or water-stains will colour plain white wood splendidly. The shelf of the mantelpiece must also be covered with wood, and the cabinet-like casing be continued up to the ceiling, being broken at a height of about 5½ft from the floor by a wide shelf. Projecting outwards into the room, from either side of the casing, are "wings of wood, some 2½ or 3ft each in depth, and these form back-rests to a couple of "cosy" seats stuffed and nicely covered, and being finished beneath with a valance of similar stuff to the seat covering. The inside of the "wings" should also be covered with the material, either put on plain or pleated.



A "Cosy" Fireside.

The seats might be made out of boxes, provided that they are of a suitable and harmonious size; or they could be manufactured from a skeleton frame of wood filled in with straps of stout webbing, and covered with a horse-hair casing. Pale green upholstery looks very artistic with either white or oak stained wood. The "casing" itself can be ornamented with a painted design, carving, or stencilling, and a picture or mirror hung in the centre of the overmantel. The top is shut in with a front strip of wood, curved at the lower outline, and a shelf. Pigeon holes can be arranged between the mantelshelf and the broad shelf above.

A handsome addition to the design would be a couple of corner brackets for china, shut in with glass doors; but these, of course, are not a necessary part of the design itself, and are a luxury. Individual ideas will, no doubt, be able to work upon the foundation I have suggested, and decorate this "fire seat" with bric-à-brac, paintings, or small engravings at will. For the winter there could be no cosier nook devised than the little "angle seat" next the fire. Imagine the luxury of being ensconced there with a book and afternoon tea!

A simple arrangement for a fireside seat, without entailing a fitment of any sort, is to put a settee in the position of one of the "wings" in the sketch, opening a Japanese screen at the back of it, and in this way "shutting it in." A high-backed seat of white wood could, instead of being backed with a screen, have a couple of short, upright poles of wood attached to either end of the top of the seat, these being united by a horizontal brass rod upon which a short curtain of silk is run. If the underneath of the seat is concealed by a curtain it can be used as a receptacle for music books. Cushions *ad lib* should be employed.

The most economical way to go to work to carry out the design of the overmantel and fireside seat is to engage with a carpenter to put up the whole wood-work—it being of plain white wood. By the aid of Aspinall's enamel the task of colouring the woodwork becomes a pleasure, and is easily done by one's self. As it would be awkward, however, to paint the upper half of the overmantel when the structure is put up, that part of it should be done previously. It would probably need to be touched up again in one or two places after it was fixed in place.

Another notion for a fireside seat is to add a couple of "wings" on either side of the usual mantelpiece, but about 1½ft away from it right and left, to widen the aspect of the whole. These wings serve, as in our sketch, for the backing of a couple of seats. A shelf unites them at the top, this shelf just escaping the ceiling if a very lofty aspect is desired. A rod is secured to the front of this shelf, and on it are now a couple of curtains and a valance of some artistic serge material such as Goringe, of Queen's Walk, Nottingham, sells. The curtains are looped back rather lower down than midway with broad bands, and thus reveal the brightly-burning fire, and a pretty overmantel beyond. The side-wings give a recessed appearance that adds greatly to the effectiveness of any decoration connected with either a window or a fireplace. This design is less expensive and troublesome to carry out than the one illustrated. Both are exceedingly pretty, and will well repay any cost and thought expended on their production. With a built-out mantelpiece, comparatively little other substantial furniture is required in a small sitting-room.

Personal Appearance.

HOW TO MAKE IT MORE ATTRACTIVE.

By Mistress ANNE PAGE.

I THINK I must make a new rule for my correspondents, something to this effect:—"The time specified in the directions given for personal attention must be taken in each case, or the result cannot be guaranteed."

Some of those who write to me are rich in this world's goods; but society makes such heavy demands on their time that "only something quite easy to apply, and that will not take up much time," is begged for in the advice sought.

Others again say, "My address no doubt will suggest to you that I lead a very busy life, and that I have little or no time to attend to my personal defects. Yet my hair is falling out, and what stays in is getting grey; my eyes are dull; my skin is muddy-looking and wrinkled, and it often gets very spotty; while my hands and nails are not at all pretty. So please help me to get better looking, but by means that will not take up my time."

Now I do not profess to work miracles, so in some way, perchance by getting up as early as I do in the mornings, and using the extra time thus stolen from Morpheus then for the exercise, the special bath and friction, the hair-brushing, &c., or by getting done in this time duties usually performed later on, and so leaving a quiet half hour for when you have the house practically to yourself, when you can, in peace, attend to your personal requirements, you may do what is necessary without infringing on time, which means money. Half an hour earlier to bed will give you time for the quick tepid bath, the gentle rub of wrinkle preventer or remover, the absolutely necessary hair-brushing, the few minutes' care of the hands and nails, and so forth.

I shall from time to time give you hints as to the best methods of treating your skin, hair, etc., so that you may make the very most of yourselves, and that without a great expenditure of the money some of you earn by much toil or weariness.

Let us begin with the complexion. Our features may not be regular, may not even be "saucily irregular," and so of themselves attractive, but this we cannot help; still, be they ever so plain and homely, their defects of form will be lost sight of if the skin be bright and dazzling, and a glowing look of health overspread all.

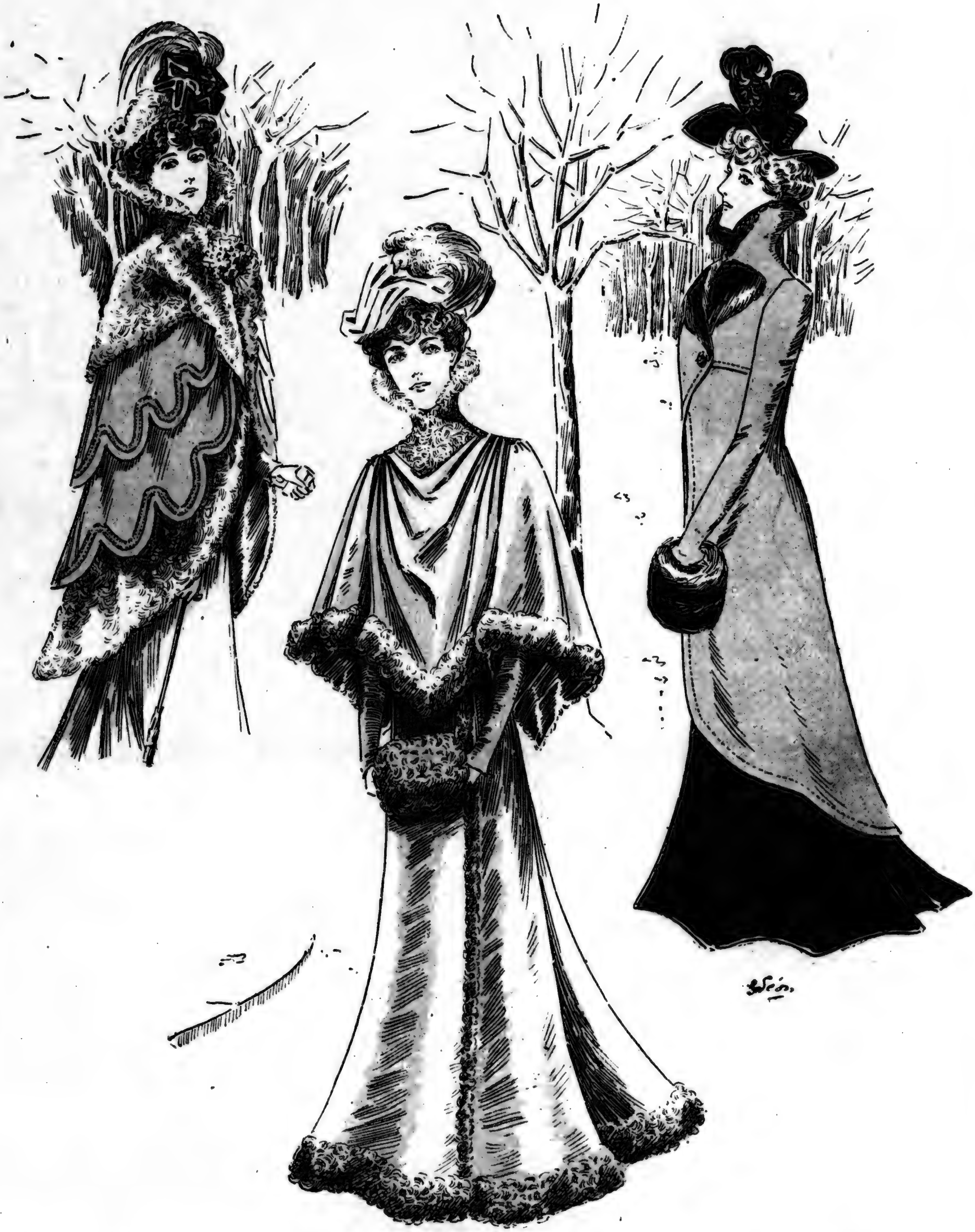
Good health, of course, is necessary to a perfect complexion, and just a little care to attend in time to the little things that we are so apt to neglect, and which often result from long hours of sitting, will save us much trouble. If the skin looks muddy, for example, and the eyes yellowish and dull, while the food seems tasteless, you have signs that the digestive organs want seeing to, and a little artificial Carlsbad water, or something of that nature, must be taken two or three times a week, the first thing before breakfast.

Attention, too, must be given to diet, which should be nourishing, without being rich or too highly seasoned. Where possible, porridge of oatmeal, or, better still, of Shredded Wheat Biscuit, which only needs to be dipped in hot milk to be ready for eating, should form part of the breakfast, while water-cress, lettuce, and the like should be freely eaten at any meal.

Fresh air, sunshine, exercise, well-aired and well-ventilated rooms, are all necessary to the gaining and keeping of a good complexion—and so is the most scrupulous cleanliness. Where a full bath twice, or even once a day is impossible, the whole body must be thoroughly sponged over, and rubbed with a Turkish towel, though far better, of course, is the tepid bath, with a good lather of pure soap, followed by the sponge with plain water, and the same after-friction. Where possible the water used should be soft, but if rain-water is not to be had, that intended for the face must be boiled, and should have added to it a water-softener. A bag of bran, or of fine oatmeal, with some orange peel previously put in the jug of water, will improve it very much, but these bags must be renewed frequently, or the oatmeal will ferment and smell sour.

Where only one bath a day is taken this is best had at night, and the quick, all-over sponge in the morning.

(*To be continued.*)



Some Smart Wraps.

The lady with the card-case wears a beautiful cape of heliotrope velvet and chinchilla. The velvet is strapped with satin to match the lining. The centre pelisse is of grey face cloth trimmed with grey astrachan; it fastens on the shoulder and down the side. The third sketch shows a simple but smart coat of blue cloth, stitched and furnished with collar and revers of sable.

Price of Paper Patterns, Short Cloak, 6½*d.; Long Wraps, each* 1*s.* 0½*d., post free of* Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Answers on Technical Points.

RULES.

1. *To be answered in the next number, letters must reach us not later than the 25th of the month.*
2. *Queries must be accompanied by a coupon cut out of the paper. No notice will be taken if sent without.*
3. *In urgent cases, or if crowded out, answers will be sent by post, for which no charge will be made. No postal reply can be sent unless a stamped and addressed envelope be enclosed.*
4. *Queries to be answered by post must be limited to three.*

DRESS AND HAIRDRESSING.

Letters to be addressed to Mdme. Myra, "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Moth.—I sent you the sketch and description of the fancy dress by post, as it was urgent. With regard to the pleated skirt, a lovely model is fully dealt with in the "Dressmaking Novelty" on page 16. You can use your brown silk for the foundation skirt, which should be in five gores, with stiffened shaped flounce. Your pretty material is so flimsy that it would "flop" uncomfortably between the feet unless held well out by the foundation.

Triplet.—You have enough cloth for the costume No. 361, and your black satin will just run to the bodice top and sleeves. I fear you may not have enough satin for the tablier piece, but that is of minor importance. The sleeves and upper bodice in a contrasting fabric is most smart. For the cashmere gown I suggest a pleated skirt (see p. 16), and a pretty draped bodice like No. 411. Trim with velvet Tom Thumb ribbon.

Tibs.—As you are so skilful at dressmaking, why not use the black satin for one of the new long pelisses? A good model is given (for black velvet) at No. 339. Strap it with mauve cloth (you will find descriptions how to strap in the correct way at No. 339, p. 32). The cloth, of course, must be stitched with silk to match. This will make you a lovely wrap. You might make the sleeves looser than the model (a wing sleeve would be elegant), and then it would serve as an evening wrap also.

Poppy.—I recommend the dainty little coat, No. 346. It would look lovely in blue poplin, with skirt to match. Face the collar and revers with white satin. When the satin is a little soiled, you can put a covering of lace. A charming model for a cashmere dressing-gown is given at No. 347.

West Indian.—A suggestion for an Empire gown is given at No. 365. It is the very model for your nice gauze. As the gauze is not very transparent, one of the new mercerised linings would suffice instead of silk. Ask your dressmaker to send for patterns of such linings to the Dressmakers' Supply Stores, Aldersgate Street, E.C. They have there everything of the kind which is on the market. Some of these linings are lovely, quite as good in appearance as cheap silk.

Mater.—A very nice coat for a girl of fourteen will be found at No. 358. I should like the coat and skirt (No. 369) of dust-coloured tweed. As the costume is required for school wear next term, I should advise the omitting of linings, which add to the trouble and expense, and which are not required in the spring and summer. The shirt (No. 369) would be another nice garment for the school outfit, and for more dressy wear the shirt (No. 366) would be found useful, made in velveteen, cashmere or silk (preferably the two last, as the garments are required after Easter). You need not fear the garments being out of date; they are of the latest cut, which will be seen all through the summer. For the hats I should like a toque (a free-and-easy Tam-o'-Shanter type) of tomato panne for better wear; for every day, a burnt straw sailor hat with red ribbons.

A Brick.—The latest type of waterproof is given on page 24. The cape and long cloak (this last only complete below the waist) has superseded the Empire sacque from the point of newness in the matter of waterproofs. It is, of course, a recourse in modification to an older type, but it has been found the most comfortable and satisfactory for the purpose. It is rather late in the day to renovate your fur-lined cloak, but you will find a pretty model for your purpose at the last figure on page 25.

Dressmaker.—Revers are still soft and unstiffened. You will find two pretty specimens at Nos. 346 and 400. The only exception is in the case of fur facings, when a stiff interlining is necessary to keep the fur from rolling up. All fur has a tendency to roll up, the skin inside and the hair outside the roll. The thicker the fur, the more this tendency is to be noted (and guarded against).

A Modern Girl.—1. Certainly the Princess dress is worn for outdoor wear—very much so! For specimens see No. 399, also Nos. 349 and 350. For Princess dresses of the tea-gown type, see Nos. 352 and 355. 2. The American yoke will be to the fore in our spring skirts. You would be safe in making a cotton shirt in the styles on page 23, for instance. As to the cotton to choose, the novelties are not yet out; but zephyr and cambric are always quite safe. You could get a very pretty effect from No. 374 in white cambric, trimming with Cash's lace-edge frilling ready ruffled on a hem-stitched band. Edge the yoke, box-pleat cuffs and collar with the frills.

Wisdom's Child.—Your letter is certainly supremely "commonsensical," such a letter that I like to receive. I will with pleasure give you any "wrinkles" you may require. I get hold of the Paris novelties almost as soon as they are evolved out of the inventors' brains; in fact, I have launched several in London myself long before the shops took up the style! Please write to me again. I sent on by post the private information you required.

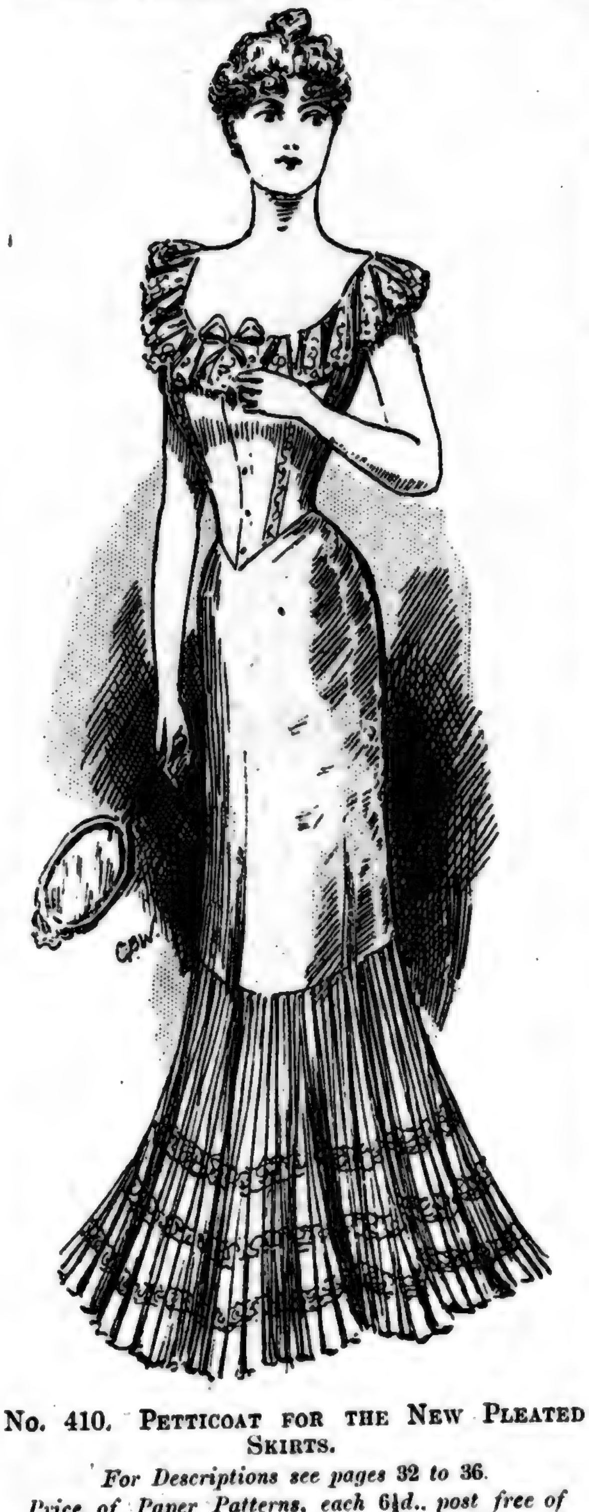
Carrie.—Your best plan will be to cover the satin with the beaded net. The stain will not show as it is so light; but, of course, the dress is useless as it is. You can leave the skirt as it is, and veil the bodice only. You will require 2 yards of 27-inch net.

Patsy.—The silk or chiffon boa is a thick ruffle or ruche finished with a big bow, and ends at the neck. Some have the ruche round the neck only. In front are two bands of the silk or chiffon, which falls almost to the feet, draped at neck, and breast with bows. You will require some 2 yards of chiffon for such a boa. At any rate, buy a length of chiffon sufficient for one end from neck to feet. These ends must not be seamed on any account.

Tribulation.—It is a pity to get a cheap silk-and-wool material. They are so vulgar-looking, and wear so badly. The price you name will buy you an excellent cloth at Peter Robinson's, Oxford Street.

Mat.—1. The pleated Princess dress has to have the material arranged on the lining; I do not think that machine pleating would do, as the pleats follow the slopes of the waist. 2. For the sun-ray skirt, make up a square of material (seamed breadths), mark out the waist, round off the corners, hem to the correct length before sending it to be pleated. 3. I think some pleats in the bodice are advisable when the skirt is entirely pleated.

Mrs. G. R. E.—Send for my Handbooks on Smocking (1d. each, postage for each ½d.). You will find some very pretty patterns, just the sort for smocks. I think as to material, soft white silk is as pretty and cheap as anything, but Messrs. J. Harris (25, Old Bond Street, W.), have a lovely silk-and-flax fabric, which makes delicious little dresses. It washes well, and can be smocked and embroidered with Harris's flax threads (these also wash very well). For the summer a long coat of Harris's strawberry art linen, embroidered with the "Ti" flowers in white, would be exceedingly pretty.



No. 410. Petticoat for the New Pleated Skirts.

For Descriptions see pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Patterns, each 6½d., post free of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

EMPLOYMENTS.

Letters to be addressed to Miss Jones, "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

F. Leversha.—As your sister has already decided on a method of employment, it is not quite so easy for me to advise. Personally, I should have thought she would have been wiser to assist you in your dressmaking business, as that trade is always in demand. I do not know much about the uses of the knitting machine, but I am under the impression that the makers or agents guarantee a certain amount of employment to the purchaser. At any rate, write to them and enquire if this is not so, and at the same time ask them for the names of any firms, agencies, or shops which make a practice of buying such goods. You might also enquire at the biggest drapers' shops in your neighbourhood. Remember it is better to have regular customers in the trade at lower prices than to depend on the occasional better-paid orders of private people. Practical things such as stockings, socks, caps, cardigans, jerseys, &c., command a quicker sale than anything more fanciful. Some advertisements soliciting orders in your local paper, and also in Myra's Journal would be a wise step. Also try to get the charitable ladies of the place to take up your sister's case, and recommend her work to their friends. Private connections are often formed in this way; but, of course, she must have some specimens of her work to show them. Write again if I can help you further.

C.M.C. (Barnstaple).—In answer to your second letter I forwarded to you the little book I promised to give you. I hope it has proved of use. Either Edinburgh or Glasgow would do admirably for your purpose: women students are especially well catered for in the latter city. If you decide, however on the former, write to the Edinburgh Medical College for Women, Minto House, Chambers Street; Secretary—Miss H. F. Mackay. Should you go to live in "Auld Reekie," I think you could not do better than live at Burn's House, 457, Lawnmarket, Edinburgh. It is a residence for ladies in connection with University Hall, Edinburgh, and would answer your purpose admirably. At Glasgow, of course, you would go to Queen Margaret College. No, you certainly need not pass the London Matriculation if you intend to take a Scottish degree. A certain preliminary examination has to be passed, which includes English, Latin, French *or* German, and mathematics. Full particulars may be obtained from the Universities. It is impossible to qualify under five years, and certain subjects must be studied for a prescribed period. Be sure to write and let me know what you do, and if I can help you any further, I shall always be glad to hear from you.

A Minnesinger.—What a remarkable pseudonym! Certainly there are plenty of employments for a girl with country tastes. Why should you ruthlessly crush them under foot, and come to swell the over-filled cities? Dairy work, bee keeping, poultry keeping, market gardening, fruit culture all offer opportunities for women who like such work. Nowadays much interest is taken in the promotion of such occupations for women. My advice to you is, go to the Lady Warwick Hostel in connection with Reading College, and take up either dairy work, agriculture, and poultry keeping, *or* agriculture, horticulture, and bee keeping. A full course of instruction lasts for two years. Tuition and board for three terms of ten weeks each will cost you £50 a year. Laundry extra. Write to the Warden, Lady Warwick Hostel, Reading. Do you know of the Countess of Warwick's agricultural scheme for women? I intend giving a paper on it shortly; but, briefly, it is for the formation of country settlements for ladies desirous of making or supplementing an income by the pursuit of agricultural occupations. Write again if I can help you, or if this does not meet with your desires.

F. E. A. (Eltham).—No pseudonym and no coupon! Another time please send both. I have answered you privately; but I add a few details here. Some of your questions I cannot possibly answer. You wish to know whether you could make a comfortable living "by typewriting, and how long it would take you to learn the work thoroughly." Opportunity, energy, brains, and the "personal equation" have everything to do with success; and as to the length of time required to master the work, that depends on your talent and industry. Most emphatically you cannot make any living at all by typewriting *alone*. Acquire a thorough knowledge of typing, say sixty words a minute; and of shorthand, say 100 words a minute; a general and commercial knowledge of French, German, and, if possible, Spanish; book-keeping, and be sure that your punctuation, grammar, and spelling of English are above suspicion. There are many places where you may train. Particularly good—especially as you are near London—is the Women's Institute, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W., where a thorough secretarial training, inclusive of indexing, may be obtained. Other addresses are:—Miss Gradwell, School of Business Training for Gentlewomen, 5, Victoria Street, S.W.; Mrs. Springitt, 4, Abchurch Lane, Cannon Street, E.C.; Mrs. Holdsworth, Broad Street House, Old Brood Street, E.C.; Miss Davidson, 37 and 39, Essex Street, Strand. All are well recommended. Write to each, and then you can compare terms, &c. By an investigation conducted by the Women's Industrial Council it was discovered that "really capable, well-educated girls knowing one or more languages," are in much demand for good-class clerkships and secretarial works. Pay averages about £2 a week for such workers, and their hours are not long. My advice to you is:—Qualify yourself thoroughly, know every detail of your profession, and you will never want for work. Please write again if I can help you further.

Lousiana Lou.—You must give up the idea of high school teaching entirely. A degree, and, if possible, a university career are imperative nowadays. The Cambridge Senior Local would be of little use in applying for such a post. As, however, you "love teaching," why not turn to Kindergarten work or elementary teaching. If, like many gentlewomen, you object to the inseparable associations of the latter, fix your attention on the former. The examinations are easy, the course shorter and cheaper than at any university, and there are plenty of posts when you are qualified. In reply to your second query, it is some time since an article on tuition appeared in Myra, and I am afraid it would be out of print. You could ascertain by applying to the office. However, I shall very probably be writing another for the new series of papers on employments which began in October last. It may possibly appear about April or May. In the meantime, apply to Madame Michaelis, Principal of the Froebel Educational Institute, Talgarth Road, West Kensington. This college is devoted exclusively to the training of Kindergarten teachers, and is the best place by far for you.

What is Horlick's Malted Milk? A preparation of pure cow's milk and malted grain prepared by our special process and containing all the most important elements of nutrition in a pleasant, soluble, and easily digested form. Indispensable for hand-reared infants, excellent for invalids, good for all. Of any chemist. Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 11s. Send for free sample, with explanatory matter, to Horlick and Co., 34, Farringdon Road, London, E.C.—[Advt.]

M. K. (West Hampstead).—Your query is, strictly, not within the scope of my subjects; but, as I take not a little interest in the matter, I will give you the benefit of my advice. It might be possible to include an article on the subject of dwellings for ladies in London in the series, for as you say the question is closely connected with employments. Here are some of the addresses you want for your young student friend:—8, Endsleigh Gardens, N.W. (apply to Mrs. Greene); Miss Nappi, 43, Albany Street, Regent's Park; Alexandra House, Kensington Gore (most suitable and good in every way, but restricted to certain students); College Hall, Byng Place, Gordon Square; Miss Osmond, 2, Wyndham Street, Bryanston Square, W. Write to each or any in the locality you most fancy. If none of these suit I can give you other addresses.

HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT.

Letters to be addressed to Miss Richardson, "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Bas Bleu.—There are a number of ways in which stock may be used with advantage; still a cook may sometimes have more than will be required—especially may this be the case in summer, when it does not keep for a long time. It is advisable then to boil it down for glaze. The stock is put into a saucepan and boiled for some hours. The water is then driven off, leaving a thick syrup in the pan. This may be used for glazing tongues, pressed beef, cutlets, &c., and vastly improves their appearance. Thus, by making a good use of the stockpot, it should prove a source of true economy in all kitchens.

ETIQUETTE.

Letters to be addressed to "Duenna," "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

E. J.—(1) You gave no pseudonym, so I hope you will recognise this. For the reception send the ordinary "At Home" card—"Mr. and Mrs.—At Home," with date; hours, nine to twelve o'clock, &c. In the corner you should put whatever entertainment you are going to offer, such as music, dancing. (2) A pale grey travelling dress is very suitable for a quiet wedding, and nothing is better than white silk or satin for the "At Home." There is no rule that the wedding gown should be used for the first evening reception that the bride attends—economy is the root of that custom. Some refreshments, or a standing supper, must be offered.

Queenie.—The dinner jacket can only be worn at small home dinners—that is, unless the gentleman in question is only commencing his teens—just too big for an Eton jacket. At a big dinner or ball a dinner jacket would be quite wrong. The tail coat by all means.

Anxious.—Such a letter should be ignored. If the postcards get too insulting it would be as well to consult your solicitor with regard to an action. Such innuendos do a great deal of harm. One can never be sure that the servants do not read the postcards daily put into the letter-box. They are sure to gossip about such matters, and it might disagreeably affect your position in the neighbourhood.

HEALTH AND PERSONAL ATTENTION.

All Letters to be addressed to "Mistress Anne Page," "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Ireland.—To give your light brown hair the lovely auburn tints that are so fashionable, use "Henna Dye," (3s. 6d., from Mr. Mason, 25, Bank Plain, Norwich), after first thoroughly washing the hair with his "Ethereal Ammonia," which he will send you for 1s. 3d. You should wash your hair brushes with the same preparation, too. The best way to apply the dye, is to pour a little of it into a saucer, dip a large new toothbrush in this, and thoroughly moisten every bit of the hair evenly. This end is the better obtained if the hair is frequently combed, from root end to tip, with a scrupulously clean comb. One with a handle is best.

Dressmaker.—Your idea of putting scent sachets in your boxes of dress stuffs is a very good one; but they must only be just suggestive, not strongly perfuming. Mr. M. F. Thompson, 17, Gordon Street, Glasgow, has some Japanese sachets at 10d. each, which smell like the pot pourri of our grandmothers' days. These would do for the elderly ladies' materials. Then he has a most delicious sachet, called "Garland of Violets," at about the same price, which would please everybody, now that the "Rhine Violet" perfume is so popular. You might suggest to your richer clients that M. Darsy, the Beauty Specialist of 54, Faubourg St. Honoré, Paris, has brought out a perfumed ribbon sachet for inside the dress bodice. This "Ruban Parfumé" costs 5s. and postage, but it lasts fresh and sweet for a lifetime. One gives the exact scent of the lovely clove carnation, another of exquisite roses; while the one which Her Royal Highness the Infanta of Spain has allowed to be dedicated to her as her especial perfume, is like the stephanotis in a bride's bouquet. If you care to send me a stamped envelope, addressed to yourself, I will write out the names of the various kinds in their French equivalents for you. No; our correspondents' names and addresses are never published.

Poor Pollie.—I can quite understand why you will lose your present appointment if you go on getting thin, for a shapely bust is, of course, part of your "stock in trade." You should at once get a 5s. jar of "Developer" from Madame Cross, Department M. J., 70, Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., and night and morning after well bathing your bust, neck, and arms in hot water, you should rub some of this wonderful flesh producer in, until the skin can take up no more. Ask Madame to enclose you the pink paper of directions; these are very few, and very simple, but should be carefully followed.

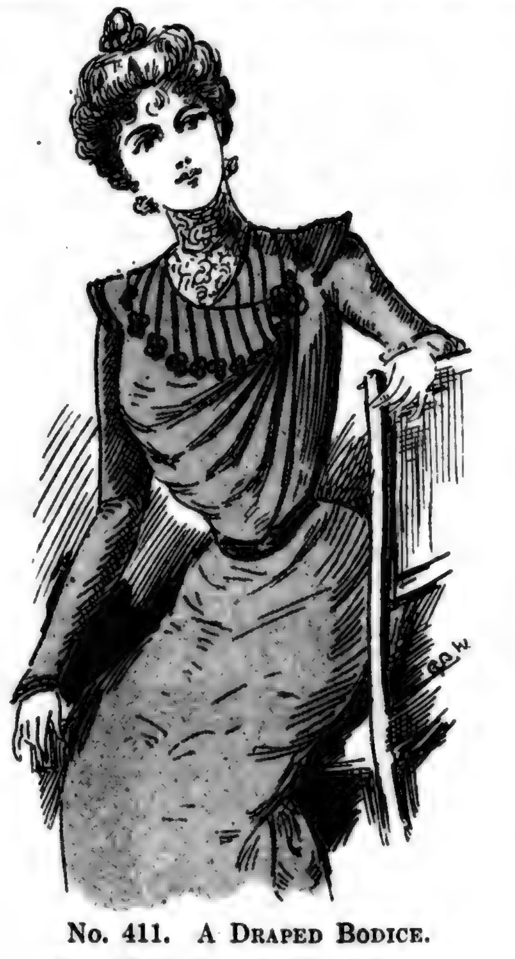
Please.—You should take a dose of "Quinine and Iron" three times a day (Mr. Mason, 25, Bank Plain, Norwich, will send you a bottle by post for 2s.), and try Madame Cross's East Indian Remedy for your neuralgia. She will send you this "Neuralgia Pad" post free from Department M. J., 70, Newman Street, Oxford Street, London, for half a crown, and you will find it most efficacious.

Mazeppa.—You should not wash your face in the daytime with soap and water; but to get its skin smooth and white, and to brace up the tissues, moisten the corner of an old handkerchief with "Lait Virginal" (2s. 6d. a pint from Mason, 25, Bank Plain, Norwich) whenever you want to freshen up.

C. W.—I received both your letters by the same post, and though I should have been most pleased to have made the inquiry for you, without thinking it the least little bit of a trouble, I saw that there was no necessity for me to do so after all. I hope by now that you have found the Hair Stain perfectly satisfactory. I shall always be pleased to hear from you, and to answer your letters in this column; but please call yourself something—"Thistle," for example, or anything else you may prefer, so that you will recognise your answer, as we do not publish the names nor the addresses of our correspondents, and I keep their secrets all to myself.

Lady's Maid.—I can easily comprehend your disgust at finding those most loathly guests in your bed; but you can utterly destroy them in this manner. Put two-pennyworth of alum in a pint of hot water, and let it boil until all the alum is quite dissolved, then apply it with a small painter's brush to all the joints and crevices of the bedstead, the seams of the mattress, and under the leathers that are sewn down to keep the stuffing in place, in fact everywhere where those nasty creeping things are likely to hide themselves. Do this very thoroughly, let it dry, and then powder the same places with Armbrecht's "Insect & Moth Destroyer." This you had better get in their "Distributor," as you can much more effectually and evenly apply it so. Messrs. Armbrecht Nelson & Co., Desk B., 71 & 73, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, London, will send you this full of powder for 1s. 2d. post free. The same thing will be excellent to puff over furs when you put them away for the summer.

Homeland.—Try not to worry so much, though I am sure in your case it is difficult to help doing so. But worry always has such a bad effect on the hair, and it is doubtless this that is making yours fall off so. Now, when you next wash your hair begin by rubbing the beaten-up yolk of an egg into the skin of your head, then shampoo in your usual way, and finally rinse in clear water. Be sure to thoroughly dry your hair before you put it up again. To stop the hair-fall part your hair all sorts of ways, and into each of these partings rub some of Madame Cross' excellent Hair Tonic with a small toothbrush every night. She will send you the preparation for 3s. 6d. if you address your letter to her at Dept. M. J., 70, Newman Street, Oxford Street, London. Of course you brush your hair regularly night and morning, as this helps to strengthen it and to keep it bright.



No. 411. A Draped Bodice.

For Descriptions see pages 32 to 36.

Price of Paper Pattern, 6½d., post free, of Madame Myra, 95, *Regent Street, W.*

Jamie's Pet.—The little piece of hair you sent me tells me that you have been letting the scurf accumulate for a long time. Now you must cure this, or your hair will go on falling out until there will be a much sadder tale to tell me. Fortunately, Mr. Mason, the clever and experienced chemist of 25, Bank Plain, Norwich, has found the cure for scurf. It is called "Dandrifine," and he will send you enough to take it all away for 3s. 6d. When you have used the bottleful write to me again.

Rosamund.—Yes, it is quite cold enough here at present, but I can well believe that you have it even more severe. Those poor, red, swollen hands must try you very much, I am sure, and I am glad to be able to tell you of a remedy. This you will find in a "Chilblain Cure" which Madame Clarisce (14, Gloucester Place, Brighton), will send you for 1s. 9d. Use it twice a day, after bathing in warm water, and well drying the poor hands, and you will find that the circulation will be quickened, and the swelling will subside. To get them white, after the blains have subsided, wash them, whenever necessary, in warm water, with a little fine oatmeal in it, wipe very dry, then work into them, until the skin has quite absorbed it, a little of Beetham's "Lait Larola," of which delightful skin cream you can get a bottle for sixpence at any good chemist's.

San Toy.—I do not wonder that your feet get so swollen, and that you every night want to cry from sheer weariness. So many hours of standing each day is really cruel, but there will soon be a law to prevent it. You can mitigate the tiredness, though, if you will bathe your feet, ankles, and knees in warm water, dry them quickly, and then rub into them "Wilson's Foot Ball" (one of the greatest boons a business-girl can provide herself with). The parts are not then to be wiped, but clean stockings put on, and shoes with "Vitalite Socks" in them. The Foot Balls are sent post free for 1s. 1d., by P. Harris and Co., 144, Edmund Street, Birmingham, and the socks are, I believe, 7d., from The London Glove Company, 45a, Cheapside, London.

Marked.—That hairy mole, in such a conspicuous position, must, I can see, be a decided disfigurement. But in these days there is a scientific remedy for most things, and you can be rid of your trouble in a very short time, if you will go to Miss Mostyn, 4, Holles Street, Cavendish Square, London. This lady is most skilful in removing all blemishes from the face, be they moles (like yours), vein-marks, superfluous hairs, rough, scaly skin, or what not. You cannot really do better than go to her as soon as you possibly can arrange to do so.

Ruby.—The best soap for your rough skin will be the "Olive Oil" one, made by Miss Johnson, 16, Buckingham Palace Road, London. You should, when you send for this, ask her to give you her booklet, which contains most useful directions for hygienic face treatment at home. She has described the method in such a plain and simple way that you will not have the least difficulty in carrying out the treatment, and getting a beautiful complexion for yourself without coming to London. I shall be very pleased to hear from you about the other trouble, and hope to be able to help you.

Limpy.—The French Corn Plaster, of which Mr. M. F. Thompson, 17, Gordon Street, Glasgow, will send you a case post free for 1s. 1½d., will speedily draw out that aggravating corn for you. You will find directions on the box.

Engaged.—You can quite cure that scurfiness for him by sponging his scalp once a day with Miss Mostyn's "Dandriff Lotion," which she sends post free from 4, Holles Street, Cavendish Square, London, for 2s. 4d. He must for the present give up the practice of washing his head every morning in cold water, and be content with the lotion. A dusty collar is very unpleasant.

Angela.—Yes, I know of several remedies for chilblains, and I came across a very curious one the other day in a note-book of "Useful Domestic Hints." This was it:—"Boil some turnips, and mash them into a pulp; put them in a tub, or large basin, and put the feet in them, almost as hot as can be borne, for a short time before going to bed. Of course this must be before the chilblains are broken." A much less messy remedy, and one that will cure blains, whether on hands or feet, is the "Chilblain Cure," sent post free for 1s. 9d. by Madame Clarisce, 14, Gloucester Place, Brighton. I can speak personally as to the merits of this.

Georgie.—It must be very unpleasant to have your lips so often cracked. You can cure this trouble now and prevent it in future by using "Dylissia" Lip Salve. If your chemist does not keep it, send 7d. for a tube to Messrs. Durand and Co., Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C., and you will get it by return of post.

Mary Stuart.—Keep by you a bottle of Rowland's "Kalydor," and when you want to wash your face during the day, just put a little on the corner of a handkerchief, and wipe over with this, instead of using soap and water. It will make your skin beautifully white and nice, especially as you are so careful to sponge yourself all over night and morning. You require to wash with soap once a day though, and I should advise this to be done the last thing at night, and with the beautiful skin soap called "Larola." You can get a cake of this for 7d. by sending to Messrs. Beetham and Son, Larola Specialists, Cheltenham.

Sa'rann.—Eyebrows are certainly too much neglected as a general rule, so you must not blame yourself too severely, but begin to mend matters now. Get from Mr. Mason, 25, Bank Plain, Norwich, a bottle of his "Eyebrow and Eyelash Tonic," and put a little of this on, according to the directions, every night. Always after washing your face, when you tidy your hair, you should brush those eyebrows into a nice shape with a soft little toothbrush. Just these two directions will make such a pleasant difference in your personal appearance very shortly.

Engaged.—This is how to make your hair grow nicely in the time. Get enough rosemary tops and green sprigs of box to weigh a pound, and simmer these down in a quart of rain water till this is reduced to a pint. To every tablespoonful of the decoction add a teaspoonful of rum, and well sponge the scalp with this once a day. If the hair be naturally dry, sponge as above, and when dry rub a little of Rowland's red Macassar-oil with your finger-tips into the hair-roots.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Letters to be addressed to Madame Myra, "Myra's Journal" Office, 10 and 11, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Kattie.—Many thanks for your appreciation of our pages. Everybody admires our dress designs, which, as you say, are thought out with the idea of their being at the same time practical and elegant. As to the paper, we publish always a full fortnight before the date on the paper (thus the January number was published December 15th). You ought to get it about two days later. The 23rd is very late. The Christmas Number (December) was published in mid-November. The "Free Bargains" Editor has attended to your request.

Worth Knowing.—Dr. Walcott, M.D., writes: "For irritation of the scalp, removal of scurf, and loss of hair, I have used Hopgood's Nutritive and Sedative Hair Cream with unfailing success." Dr. Salter, M.D.: "I have witnessed its effects in restoring the hair to an extent truly surprising." Fifty years' success. Bottles 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale Agency, 51, Frith Street, London, W.

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HAVE WORKED MILDLY
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THIRTY YEARS.

Tails of Long Hair.
Best Quality.

in Length.	Price.
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22	10/6
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By post, 3d. extra.
Grey, and very light shades, extra.

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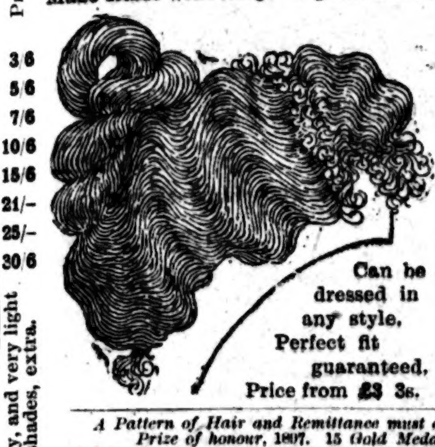

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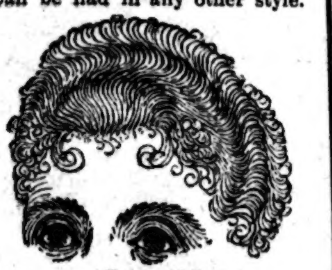

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Pin Curls, 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, and 5/6.

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Astringent Skin Lotion	3	0
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JAMES'S DEPILATORY instantly REMOVES SUPERFLUOUS HAIR from the Face, Neck, or Arms, without injury to the Skin. Of most Chemists, 1s. and 2s. 6d.; or free from observation, post free, for 15 or 33 stamps.

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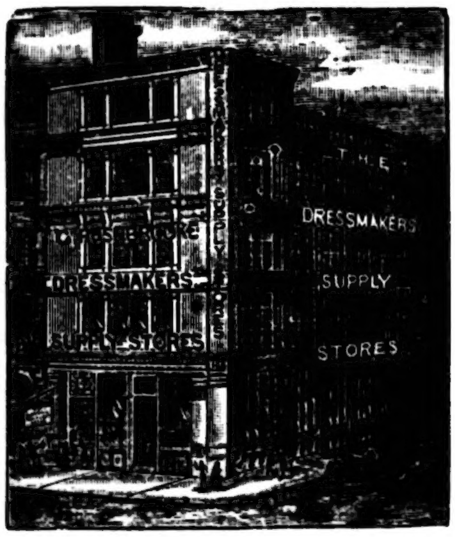

The Dressmakers' Supply Stores

Is the Largest, Oldest, and Most Up-to-Date Warehouse in the World devoted exclusively to the Dressmaking Trade. Everything needed by a Dressmaker to carry on her business can be obtained at the D. S. S.

Every Dressmaker who wishes to buy in the best market should send to the D.S.S. for Price List, Patterns, &c., enclosing Trade Card or Billhead, as only the Trade is supplied.

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